

Thatcher vow never to bow to terrorism

- The Prime Minister refused to rule out British backing for new US anti-terror strikes... Evidence is growing that Libya is anxious to defuse the tension with the West...

The Prime Minister said yesterday that she would never appease or bow to terrorism and refused to rule out British backing for further American action against terrorism...



Kathleen Yonahana, a Hawaiian high school student, greeting President Reagan with a garland and a kiss after his arrival at Hickam Air Force Base on his way to the Tokyo summit.

Duchess's body is brought home White lilies mark France's farewell Seal of secrecy on jewels

The body of the Duchess of Windsor was brought with quiet ceremony to England by a Royal Air Force flight from Paris yesterday afternoon for tomorrow's funeral in Windsor...

Hint of move by General Motors on BL

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, yesterday triggered a new dispute over BL when he opened up the possibility of General Motors returning to negotiations for the purchase of BL companies...

Briton killed in Jerusalem

A young British tourist was shot dead yesterday afternoon at the entrance to the Garden Tomb here...

Oil slump threatens coal pits Rescuers save boy in crevice

Plunging oil prices will force the National Coal Board to abandon its target of breaking even in its next financial year... Rescuers last night freed a boy aged five who was trapped for six hours 20 feet down a natural crevice...

29 workers seized at Bahrain site

Manama, Bahrain (AFP, Reuters) - Twenty-nine workers, including two Britons, at a construction site on the disputed Fasht al-Dibal islet between Bahrain and Qatar were seized in a helicopter attack...

Libya tries to defuse the tension Reagan warns 'cowards'

An ingratiatingly self-critical article in the weekly newspaper of Libya's "revolutionary Committees" and a comparatively mild reproach of EEC ambassadors for their countries' new measures against Colonel Gaddafi's regime...

Mystery of the missing president

In an article marking the anniversary of the communist takeover, the Soviet party newspaper said that criticism had been expressed at the slow speed of the introduction of reforms in the country...

Portfolio Gold - Four readers shared the weekend Times Portfolio Gold prize of £20,000... Tomorrow A modern emperor - Prince Hirohito landed in trouble when he tried to emulate the Prince of Wales...

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Doctors face scrutiny of referrals as private care costs rise

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Doctors are to face tougher scrutiny of whether they are referring private patients for unnecessarily expensive or lengthy treatment as the costs of private medical care continue to soar.

Doctors were ordering expensive investigations in cases where others did not feel they were needed and there had been a rapid growth in the use of intensive care beds in private hospitals.

Mr Graham said: "The new data is already beginning to make specialists think twice before embarking on a particular course of treatment and in a particular hospital."

Call for nurses to prescribe

Doctors must relinquish their monopoly of the prescription pad and allow nurses to use their skills if significant improvements were to be made in primary health care.

Mr Trevor Clay, general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, said yesterday: "Bupa and PPP are building databases of individual doctor's referral patterns so that action can be taken if doctors are found consistently

The primary care discussion document emphasized areas which needed improving such as vaccination, early detection of high blood pressure and cervical screening.

Arson inquiry at Hampton Court

By Colin Hughes, Whitehall Correspondent

Scotland Yard's fraud squad is investigating the theory that arsonists started the Hampton Court fire in an attempt to cover tracks in a corruption inquiry.

The Department of the Environment, however, would say yesterday only that inquiries were continuing and that it could not comment in detail until Sir John's report is complete.

Prayers said for Satanist

The rector who was duped into persuading wealthy Christians to give more than £200,000 to the Satanist Derry Mainwaring Knight, joined 100 parishioners yesterday in a prayer for him.

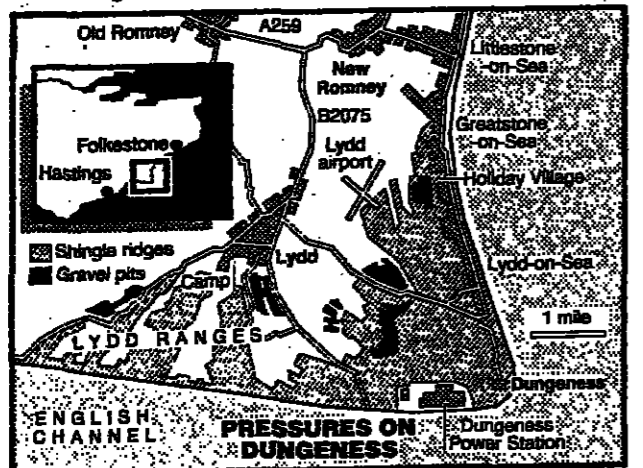
Nature fears for Dungeness

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Dungeness, a bleak Kent promontory with unique colonies of bumble bees and moths, is emerging as the next big battleground between conservationists and developers.

Dr Keith Duff, head of geography at the council, said: "The council is coming to the conclusion that there is no more room for compromise."

where else in the world. A scarce weevil found at Dungeness cannot be investigated fully because it lives in the roots of a protected yellow poppy which it is illegal to dig up.



Now well over a third of the ridges with plants growing on them have been destroyed by firing ranges, gravel digging and the establishment of a nuclear power complex.

Contested divorces made easier

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Contested divorces will become cheaper and quicker to obtain under changes in matrimonial law which come into force today.

They will also mean a step towards rationalization of the courts' family business at a time when pressure is increasing for a single family court.

which is aimed at reforming the distribution of family business between the High and county courts.



Two young roller-skaters speeding off at Battersea Park, London, yesterday. The day, ending in a 26-mile skating marathon, was organized by Platignum (Photograph: John Voos).

Food facts found in rubbish

By John Young

Expensive market research discovered that residents eat 20 times more chocolate and 15 times more pastries than they admitted in a consumer survey.

Professor William Rathje, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Arizona, says that people rarely tell the truth about their eating habits—especially those of which they are ashamed.

One of the Professor's most bizarre findings was that in Marin County, California, the county with the highest family incomes in the United States, people were throwing out boxes that had contained expensive Scotch whisky but not the bottles.

Plea for reform on choice of judges

By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

Public support for moves to reform the system of appointing judges take it out of the hands of Civil Servants comes today from the vice-chairman of the Bar.

Mr Peter Scott, QC, who is expected to be the Bar's next chairman, says that there are "some disturbing elements in the present system which need to be looked at."

He puts forward the possibility of a new Judicial Appointments Board, with the Lord Chancellor or Attorney General as chairman, and including judges, members of the Bar, solicitors and laymen.

Pressure for change at the Bar has been fuelled by its recent legal action against the Lord Chancellor, which brought barristers in front of judges "who included those appointed by him and those whose prospects of promotion depended on him," Mr Scott says.

Previous proposals to reform the system made in 1972 by Justice, the law reform group, did not go far enough, Mr Scott argues.

In the same article he comments on the Bar's action against the Lord Chancellor over legal aid fees and says it conveyed an unmistakable message to those in government.

Portfolio Gold

Mr Leslie Reading, who runs a hotel in Infracombe, north Devon, was celebrating yesterday his £3,000 win in Saturday's £20,000 Portfolio Gold.

Mrs Vicki Talbot, a Mortlake housewife aged 34, will spend her £2,000 share on paying decorators to complete renovations on her home.

Just as pleased with his £2,000 share is Mr Hugh Humphreys, aged 75, of Inkpen, near Newbury. He is moving house and the money is very welcome.

The fourth winner, Mr David Raynes, aged 42, of Addington, Macclesfield, who won £3,000, said he played Saturday's game only by chance.

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Mrs Talbot wins £2,000



Mr Reading, £3,000 richer

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'Risk profile' helps in checking tendency to inherited illnesses

A cure for some inherited illnesses is in sight, using genetic therapy. Within the next 12 months doctors are expected to attempt a remedy by giving a person a new gene to replace a defective one.

In tentative steps to move from the laboratory to the clinic, the treatment will be for two or three of the rarest inherited diseases.

Doctors at the Children's Hospital in Boston and the Children's Hospital in Los Angeles are among the four leading American research groups expected to ask for permission for clinical trials later this year.

The first condition they are likely to treat makes children vulnerable to any and every infection. The infants have to live in sterile conditions. They have no natural immunity simply because they fail to produce just one of the thousands of molecules essential to the body's biochemistry. It is an enzyme called adenosine deaminase.

Few genetic disorders can be treated effectively. In Britain the emphasis of medical research is on prevention. Medical teams here will wait for the results of the American experiments.

In the meantime they continue pioneering methods for earlier diagnosis of genetic

Early in the 1980s, Dr Martin Cline, at the University of California, created a new strain of mice by inserting foreign genes taken from another strain. Shortly after, a gene that regulates the production of human

disorders. Recent advances make the outlook of substituting a healthy gene for an inactive or missing one favourable for only a limited number of conditions.

Genetic illness has become increasingly important, as infectious diseases have been eliminated in the Western countries.

More than 40 per cent of the paediatric beds in hospital are for children with some form of congenital disorder.

It was against that background that a conference at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School, in London, was aimed at getting information about the prospects for quicker diagnosis and treatment out of the laboratory and into the hands of the non-specialist doctors.

There are more than 2,000 known illnesses attributed to genetic faults. Employing the latest tricks of molecular biology, the exact flaw has been isolated for about 10 of them.

growth hormone was spliced into another breed to produce a mutant strain 10 times as big. In the first of a three-part series Pearce Wright, Science Editor, reports on the way those advances are helping doctors and patients.

But genetic studies are showing how to produce a "risk profile" for individuals of all sorts of things, including inherited tendencies to high levels of cholesterol and coronary. In future a woman may ask a man for his genetic profile before she agrees to marry him.

Ten years ago it was impossible to study human genes in the laboratory. Now, thanks to the development of the technology known as recombinant DNA, it is possible to extract single genes from human cells.

But the question of combating inherited illness goes far beyond pinpointing which is the troublesome one of a million or so genes, and there are identical sets in all the cells of the body with the exception of the sperm and egg cells.

There are trials in the UK, with new assays, or gene probes, for doing this. When they are used with a method developed in Professor Bob

Williamson's laboratory at St Mary's Hospital, London, of analysing placental tissue, called chorionic villi, diagnoses can be made at an early stage of pregnancy.

Looking at the tissue to see whether a particular gene is present or missing uses the Southern blot test, developed by Dr Ed Southern of Edinburgh University.

Such tests, costing about £400 compared with £5,000 to £10,000 a year for treatment that only ameliorates but cannot cure the condition, may be done at eight weeks after conception.

Individual probes or markers have to be devised to lock on to a specific gene. One of the first was for diagnosing the mentally debilitating illness, Huntington's Chorea. Pioneered at the Massachusetts General Hospital, the technique is employed by Dr Peter Harper at the Welsh National School of Medicine.

Professor David Weatherall's team at the John Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, concentrates on the abnormal conditions of the blood known as haemoglobinopathies, or conditions in which something is wrong with the oxygen-carrying job of the blood.

Tomorrow: Genetic manipulation



A veteran Burma Star holder preparing to march to the Cenotaph for a wreath-laying ceremony in the annual remembrance parade yesterday. The salute was taken in Whitehall by the Burma Star Association's patron, the Duke of Edinburgh (Photograph: Barry Beattie).

Help for Mersey estate may be ended

By Peter Davenport
A scheme to regenerate one of the worst council housing estates in the country is running out of money to complete its programme.

The Government is to be asked to provide a further £3 million in extra funding, and a bank and building society involved as financial backers are to be asked to delay loan repayments, to enable work on the former Central Farm estate near Liverpool to be finished.

Officials of the trust formed to run the programme admitted yesterday that their original cost estimates had been inaccurate and too low. The scheme will also take two years longer to complete than originally planned.

Mr Vernon Jackson, its chief executive, said yesterday: "Our early costs were wrong. We went out quickly and the main thing was to get things done."

The estate, where teenage unemployment runs at up to 80 per cent, was remained in an attempt to improve its image and the group, launched in 1983 on the initiative of Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment at the time, is now known as the Stockbridge Village Trust.

The Department of the Environment said that the matter was under negotiation.

BMA call to abolish hospital immunity

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services Correspondent

The British Medical Association yesterday backed moves to remove hospitals' Crown immunity to prosecution over a broader area than just catering.

The association said it was backing an amendment tabled by Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke on Trent, to the Government's Bill which will remove Crown immunity from hospital catering in the wake of the salmonella outbreak at the Stanley Royd hospital in Wakefield in 1984, when 19 patients died.

Mr Ashley's amendment to the Bill, due to go into committee stage tomorrow, would effectively remove hospitals' immunity to prosecution, opening them to action from the Health and Safety Executive.

"The NHS should not continue to place its 875,000 employees, or its patients, at risk of infection and injury," the association said. "It is not only in the catering areas of hospitals where accidents can occur or epidemics start."

"A visit to almost any hospital would provide examples where the Act is disregarded: laboratory conditions, storage of materials, collection and disposal of rubbish, fire hazard and ventilation."

Science report

Charred clues to Iron Age meal

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

Analysis of the stomach contents of Lindow Man, the Iron Age bog corpse from Cheshire, has shown that his last meal consisted of unleavened griddle-cakes made from coarse wholemeal flour. Wheat and barley flours were used, and the cakes were cooked on a flat heated surface for about half an hour at 200 degrees centigrade.

The methods used to establish the nature of a meal eaten more than 2,000 years ago include microscopic examination of the plant cells to establish the cereals used, and the employment of electron spin resonance (ESR) to determine the temperature and duration of cooking.

The results of the work on Lindow Man (known popularly as "Pete Marsh" when he was first discovered two years ago, but now named after the Lindow Moss bog near Winslow where he was found) were presented this month at the International Working Group for Paleosecularology symposium in Cambridge, in separate papers by Mr Tim Holden and Mr Dan Robins.

"It was obvious that the major constituent of the last meal was cereal," Mr Holden said. "Bran fragments, identifiable by their characteristic cell patterns, of barley and either wheat or rye were identified."

"High quantities of cereal chaff of barley and two species of wheat (emmer and spelt wheats) were also recovered: clearly the meal had been made of some finely ground but coarse, very wholemeal, cereal flour."

"Based on the size of fragments and composition we would have to postulate a meal in which a fine gruel, a type of bread, or dumplings played a large part."

"The presence of small charcoal fragments argues for a cooking method in which accidental burning or incorporation of charred remains from previous meals could have been a regular occurrence. An oven or cooking stone might produce this kind of result."

Lindow man was garrotted and then thrown into the bog, while he may have been the victim of a prehistoric mugging, the similarity of his last meal to that reported for the Grauballe bog-body in Denmark suggests that some ancient Iron Age ritual of sacrifice was involved.

Sale room

Swedes steal the show at Bukowski's auction

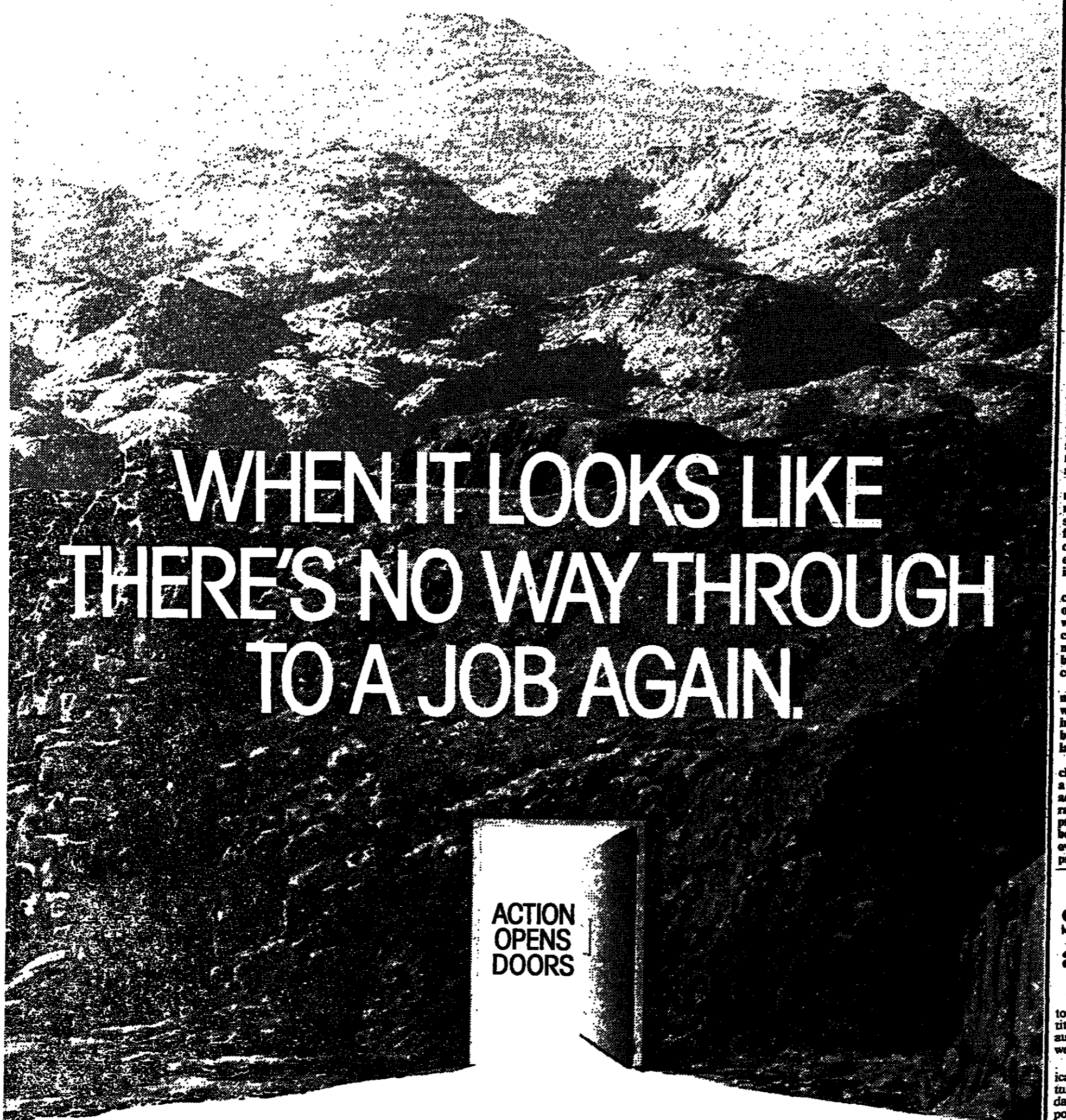
By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Swedish dealers and collectors fought off foreign competition at Bukowski's big spring auction in Stockholm last week.

A 16-foot French mythological tapestry, with Daphne turning into a laurel tree, dating from about 1600 and possibly woven from a cartoon by Raphael, had tempted French dealers north but they were outbid and it went to a Swedish dealer at 570,000 kronor (estimate 100,000 kronor, or £51,800).

It had been bought in Paris by a Swedish collector in the eighteenth century and there was an unsuccessful attempt to buy it back for Teleborg Castle in the south of Sweden, where it had hung until recently.

A rare English quadrangle tricycle of about 1885 made £3,300 (estimate £1,200-1,800) and a Cheylesmore tricycle of about 1880, which has the driver perched between two big front wheels and balanced by a small wheel behind, made £3,410 (estimate £2,500-£3,000).



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United stand likely at Tokyo

Thatcher and Chirac agree to strong action on terrorism

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain and France have agreed on the need for Western countries to take tougher measures to deal with international terrorism.

At a meeting between Mrs Thatcher and M Jacques Chirac, her French counterpart, at Chequers on Saturday, the two leaders also emphasized the need for Western nations to maintain a common position on terrorism.

It was M Chirac's first meeting with Mrs Thatcher since he became Prime Minister.

The outcome means that the way is now clear for the seven industrialized nations - Britain, France, the US, West Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan - to issue a strongly worded statement on terrorism at their summit which opens in Tokyo next Sunday.

The French had been opposed to a new declaration on terrorism at Tokyo, believing that the summit should concentrate on economic issues. However, they decided to withdraw their objections following recent terrorist outrages in Europe and the US reprisal raid against Libya.

It is unclear, however,

whether the Tokyo declaration will refer to Libya by name as a sponsor of international terrorism. The Americans want to, do the British; but the Japanese, who are large importers of Libyan oil, are opposed.

The Reagan Administration has drawn up a five-point plan of action which is being supported by Mrs Thatcher.

It calls for improved extradition procedures between summit countries, stricter visa requirements for citizens of states that support terrorism, a global blacklist of diplomats and others with known links to terrorist organizations, a ban on arms sales to countries that back terrorist organizations and closer co-operation between national security authorities.

In Tokyo President Reagan will make the point that, unless there is agreement on tough new anti-terrorist measures, the US might find itself having to carry out further Libyan-style reprisal raids - something the other participants are anxious to prevent.

He will also emphasize the need for Western countries to maintain a united front and

avoid a repetition of the damaging public row that followed the punitive strike against Libya.

At their Chequers meeting, Mrs Thatcher and M Chirac agreed to disagree on the American bombing of Libya. "I think she understood that we do not have the same point of view and took a different position from the British," M Chirac said. "But that doesn't make any problems between Britain and France."

M Chirac, clearly anxious to dispel charges that France was "soft on terrorists", spent some time telling Mrs Thatcher about the measures his Government was taking against Libya. These include restricting the movement of staff from Libyan People's Bureaux in France, tightening up on visa applications by Libyans, and reducing the number of French diplomats in Tripoli.

During their three-hour meeting the two Prime Ministers also talked about European issues, especially the growing trade war between the US and the European Community, South Africa, and the Channel tunnel.



Smiles set the tone at the weekend meeting at Chequers between M Jacques Chirac, the new French Prime Minister, and Mrs Thatcher.

US may deport ex-IRA member

From Michael Binyon, Washington

A former IRA man wanted in Britain for his alleged role in the 1974 bombing of a Yorkshire barracks could be deported from the United States to Northern Ireland, after a Federal Appeals Court ruling in San Francisco that he is not eligible for political asylum in the US.

Mr Peter McMullen, who deserted from the British Army in 1972 and has been living in the San Francisco Bay area since 1979, was arrested by the US authorities, but freed on bond after a magistrate blocked his extradition to Britain.

But on Friday, a three-man panel of the San Francisco court cleared the way for his extradition.

The panel's ruling can be challenged with an appeal to the full court or taken to the US Supreme Court.

According to the court document, Mr McMullen joined the Provisional IRA after his desertion from the Army.

The ruling, which will be welcomed both by the Reagan Administration and Britain, comes after President Reagan appealed personally to the Senate to pass a revised extradition treaty with Britain, making it easier to extradite members of the IRA.

There are currently two other IRA members whose extradition Britain is seeking, one in New York and one in California.

Torture of ranch 'slaves' alleged

Kerville, Texas (UPI) - A case alleging torture, slavery and death at a Texas ranch will come to trial this week when four people face charges of kidnapping and murder.

Walter Wesley Ellebracht, aged 55, his 33-year-old son Walter, and his daughter-in-law Joyce, aged 31, along with Carlton Robert Caldwell, aged 21, are charged over the death of Anthony Bates, a drifter from Huntsville, Alabama, allegedly tortured and cremated on the ranch.

When police visited the ranch to investigate a missing person report, they found six drifters who claimed they had been lured there with the promise of a hot meal and work, then enslaved, tortured and chained in a barn at night to prevent their escape. Tapes on which the torture can allegedly be heard were seized.

British sisters killed in Spain

Madrid - Spanish police are treating as accidental the death of two Hastings sisters knocked down by a car at Marbella on the Costa del Sol (Richard Wigg writes).

Sandra and Karen Frostick, aged 20 and 17, both died instantly. Police said the girls had not seen the car because of heavy rain and had apparently not expected it to come from the opposite side of the road to that in Britain.

French A-test

Wellington (Reuter) - The French exploded their first nuclear device this year at the Mururoa atoll, New Zealand scientists said.

Heroes' hour

Singapore (Reuter) - Three Irishmen, a Briton and a Singaporean, who burrowed through the ruins of a collapsed hotel to save 17 people, received awards for bravery here from President Wee Kim Wee.

Hotel killing

Manila (API) - A man identified as a murder suspect was shot dead by soldiers in the lobby of Manila's Holiday Inn as terrified guests scrambled for cover. Nobody else was injured.

Braun diary

Munich (Reuter) - The 1944 diary of Eva Braun, Hitler's lover and his wife for a day, was sold at auction in Munich for about £4,500.

Police ask for help on Lyons attacks

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

The Chief Commissioner of the Lyons police, M Alain Jezequel, has appealed to the public for information about the bombing of the American Express office and the killing of Mr Kenneth Marston, British managing director of the Lyons-based American company Black and Decker.

A violent explosion, followed by a fire, destroyed the American Express office in the Part-Dieu district of Lyons early on Saturday. One person was slightly injured by flying glass.

On the garage wall in the basement of the building, which also houses the offices of the multinational company Control Data, was scrawled the message "Black and Decker, Control Data, American Express - US go home".

Despite two telephone calls to news agencies by a person with a Middle Eastern French accent, referring to Mr Marston's killing and the American Express bombing in the name of the Arab Revolutionary Front, Lyons police are unwilling to link them.

It had been thought that the shooting of Mr Marston, outside his front door as he left for work early Friday morning, could have been either a terrorist act or have some connection with recent burglaries at Black and Decker in Lyons.

Athens out of step on EEC sanctions

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece's European partners, as well as the United States, are disturbed and puzzled by the Greek Government's reluctance to abide by the Community's decision to impose sanctions against Libya.

The strength of the American feeling was conveyed last week to Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Socialist Prime Minister. It was combined with concern that this attitude might hurt Greek efforts to improve relations with the United States or to secure Western support to overcome its serious economic and security problems.

Now the European Community has decided to reprimand the Greeks about their attitude.

The Dutch presidency, and also individual members, are known to be planning to question the Greek Government this week about its refusal to implement the restricted EEC measures on Libyan diplomats, although it unreservedly endorsed last Monday's unanimous decision by the Community to that effect.

The Greek Government stated that it would not impose such sanctions until "tangible evidence" of Libyan involvement in specific terrorist acts was produced.

The American displeasure was made known personally to Mr Papandreu by Mr Robert Keeley, the United States Ambassador, on Friday, and also 24 hours earlier by the State Department to the Greek Ambassador in Washington.

British woman shot by kidnapper

Islamabad - Pakistani police have arrested a man who allegedly tried to abduct an English woman after shooting and injuring her at a Peshawar hotel on Saturday (Hasan Akhtar writes).

The woman is identified in a statement issued by the Save the Children Fund as Miss Jill Scoones, aged 25, a primary health care adviser with the Peshawar office of the Fund.

The statement said that a man had tried to abduct her from the swimming pool of the Pearl Hotel. She had been shot three times.

The police said that she was hit in the leg and hand and

Secrets of a suspect's wife

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

It has not exactly been a marriage of convenience for Mrs Barbara Hindawi.

Her husband is being held in London, accused of trying to plant a suitcase of explosives on an El Al airliner at Heathrow. Her brother-in-law is suspected of having blown up the La Belle discotheque in West Berlin.

Mrs Hindawi, aged 30, a slender, bird-like woman from eastern Poland, probably knows more about these extraordinary Jordanian brothers than anybody else. But so far, the Polish authorities say, there has been no British request to interview her.

So she stays free, a farmer's daughter at home in a sprawling apple orchard in Rudzyn Podlaski.

Free but evidently under observation. Ten minutes into our conversation, a secret policeman bumped up the dirt track to the orchard and led her away - "Would you come

curious, but also protectively private about her husband's activities.

They had a Christmas wedding in 1980 in London after having met at a language school. They have a daughter, Natasha, aged five. To her village, strongly Roman Catholic, the marriage was odd - more than odd, other-worldly.

Nezar appeared at unpredictable intervals and introduced himself as a journalist.

Nezar's brother was also in Poland, though nobody in the village seemed to know whether it was the man connected with the discotheque bombing. "He had a lot of brothers," said one of Mrs Hindawi's relatives.

A few months before the El Al incident Nezar was in Poland; he was expected again soon. "After all, he's my husband, officially," said Mrs Hindawi, laying stress on the last word.

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Libya raid planes were switched from Spain

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Six of the US air tankers which took part in the April 15 raids on Libya had been transferred to BRITAIN from their Spanish base only three days before. *El Pais*, the Madrid newspaper, said yesterday.

It said it based its report on a Spanish air force inquiry.

The transfer was intended by the Americans to take Spain out of the air raid controversy, the newspaper quoted defence sources as saying.

Before the air strikes, the Madrid Government repeatedly made clear its refusal to let the Americans use its base facilities in Spain.

The reported transfer came one day before General Ver-

non Walters, President Reagan's special envoy, had an interview, kept secret at the time, with Señor Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, who criticised the air strikes publicly.

Five KC10 aircraft from the Saragossa base flew on April 11 to Fairford and one KC135 to Mildenhall, the newspaper said. They joined British-based tanker aircraft in crucial refuelling in the air operation. France and Spain had refused the F111 strike force permission to fly over their territory.

Spain's Defence Minister, Señor Narcis Serra, has told Parliament that no American air tankers based in Spain had been involved in refuelling operations.

Rome cuts Tripoli's mission

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The Libyan diplomatic mission here has been instructed to reduce its staff by 10, and those that remain will be limited in their activities.

At the moment the Libyan representation consists of 40 people in Rome and another seven in consulates in Palermo and Milan.

In future the Libyan diplomats will have to stay within the limits of the local province in which they work unless they are granted a special permit to go beyond the provincial boundaries.

Fiumicino Airport, which has been the scene of many terrorist attacks, is considered to be within the Rome province.

Controls on diplomatic couriers from Libya and from other countries involved in terrorism will be reinforced. These other countries are understood to be Syria, Iran, the two Yemens and possibly Iraq.

Entry for Libyan citizens, whether diplomats or not, will be scrutinized more closely.

US recalls its key Sudan embassy staff

Khartoum - The United States Embassy here will this week evacuate 30 officials who are described as "essential personnel", indicating continuing fears for the security of Americans in the Sudanese capital (Gill Lusk writes).

Earlier this month, an embassy communications officer, was shot dead here in the wake of the US raid on Libya. A total of 265 "non-essential staff" - dependants and private citizens - have already been airlifted out.

It is understood that this latest move reflects US concern that the Sudanese Government has done little to increase the safety of American, British and other Western interests.

Mark Thatcher to stay

New York - The owners of the Dallas block of flats who wanted to evict Mr Mark Thatcher because they fear that terrorists might attack their building have been shamed into letting him stay another month, until his lease expires (Trevor Fishlock writes).

Soon after the American

bombing of Libya, and his mother's support for the action became clear, the block's management told Mr Thatcher to move by last Friday.

For many Texans, in a state which prides itself on its macho image, the attempt to get rid of Mr Thatcher, who works for a British car company, is an acute embarrassment.

Treasurehouse of tsars to reopen

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Kremlin Armoury, the oldest Russian museum housing a priceless and exotic collection of jewels and regalia from the time of the tsars, is to re-open to the public this week after being closed for three years for structural repairs.

A museum spokesman said yesterday the nine halls of the armoury - which contain weapons, armour and jewels dating from the 12th century up until the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution - will re-open on Friday, the day after the traditional May-Day parade in Red Square.

When it re-opens, the museum which was built last century as part of the great Kremlin Palace, will show for the first time a rare 17th century collection of silver.

The museum is regarded as one of the most fascinating in the world. It includes a 16th century English carriage said to have been given to Tsar Boris Godunov by Queen Elizabeth I and a flat goblet made

Tussle over body of Transkei chief

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

A bitter legal battle is being fought in South Africa's "independent" homeland of Transkei over the snatching of a chief's body.

Relatives of Paramount Chief Sabata Dalindyebo, of the Tembu clan, want his body exhumed and returned to Zambia "for a decent burial".

The chief, known as the "Comrade King", was an African National Congress leader and cousin of Mr Nelson Mandela. He died on April 7 in Zambia, where he had lived in self-exile.

Transkei officials said they would allow him to be buried at his birthplace near Umata, the Transkei capital. But after the body arrived they announced severe restrictions on the funeral.

Angry relatives, including Mrs Winnie Mandela, obtained a Transkei Supreme Court order that the body should remain in a funeral parlour. But Chief Kaiser Matanzima, the former Trans-

kei President and a rival of the "Comrade King" before his exile, arrived at the funeral parlour and took it away.

The chief's coffin was loaded into a pick-up truck and a few hours later was buried in the presence of homeland officials and about 300 Transkei soldiers and police.

Chief Sabata's relatives, including Mrs Mandela, stayed away and met lawyers to discuss legal redress. But in a further complication the Supreme Court ordered them to show why their application to exhume the body should not be withdrawn because of fraud and misrepresentation.

The hearing has been postponed until May 15. The Sabata family lawyers say that attempts to secure the services of nearly every senior counsel in South Africa have been unsuccessful.

In any event, they point out, under Transkei law any application for exhumation has to be submitted to, and approved by, the Interior Minister.

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Signs of South African readiness to hold negotiations with ANC

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Moves to bring the South African Government and the African National Congress to the negotiating table are believed to have been given impetus this weekend in Swaziland during celebrations marking the enthronement of Prince Makhosive, aged 18, as King Mswati III.

President Botha of South Africa was seen in conversation with Presidents Machel of Mozambique, Masire of Botswana and Kaunda of Zambia. Their talks have been described as "brutally frank".

Later Mr Botha and Mr Kaunda had a further meeting in a private hotel suite.

It is thought that the discussions centred on proposals that South Africa and the ANC accept the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group as an honest broker to initiate negotiations by proxy.

Before he flew to Swaziland, Mr Botha gave some cryptic hints of a shift in the Government's attitude on dialogue, although publicly this remains that it will not consider or sanction any approach until the ANC renounces and halts violence.



Sudanese MPs meet only to adjourn

From Gill Lusk, Khartoum

Sudan's first democratically elected Parliament for 17 years, sworn in on Saturday, immediately took as its first unanimous decision to accept the resignation of the Government.

But the nearly 260 deputies also agreed that the Government should stay in office until party leaders have agreed on a new coalition Cabinet.

The Transitional Military Council and its civilian Council of Ministers, which have ruled since the overthrow of President Nimeiry a year ago, will stay in place until May 6.

The new assembly had been expected at least to choose a Speaker, as well as a head for the five-man Council of Sovereignty which will act as head of state.

Negotiations went on to the very last minute. As thousands of euphoric demonstrators chanted "Democracy" outside the Parliament building, political leaders could be seen still holding intense discussions in the lobby.

Guests and journalists milled around them as the talks continued, and the heads of the entire diplomatic community waited three hours for General Abdel Rahman Swar el-Dahab, chairman of the Military Council, to arrive for the handover of power.

After a private swearing-in, the assembly met only to adjourn. In a farewell speech, the outgoing Prime Minister, Dr el-Ghazouli Daffallah, emphasized that Sudan deserved the general belief that there was no democracy in the Third World.

The sight of a military leader voluntarily giving up power provoked some powerful emotions.

As the Palace Guard presented arms to General Swar el-Dahab, the sound of the national anthem was drowned by the cheers from the crowd.

Riot police and students clashing in Cheongja, central South Korea, yesterday after tear gas was fired to disperse more than 5,000 demonstrators supporting electoral reform.

More than 5,000 students at the rally, organized by the New Korea Democratic Party, threw stones and petrol bombs to try to break through riot police lines; 20 were arrested. A leading dissident, Mr Kim Yong Sam, had called on President Chun Doo Hwan to allow democratic elections or risk being deposed like ex-President Marcos of the Philippines.

American cuts force UN to meet on financial crisis

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The United Nations is in dire financial straits. The General Assembly convenes today in special session called by Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the Secretary-General, in order to drive home the magnitude of the crisis to a largely oblivious and carefree membership. At stake may well be the survival of the organization.

The immediate concern is reducing the \$96 million (£64 million) shortfall out of a budget of \$800 million by the end of this year. Unless steps are taken soon, the UN will run out of cash and will be unable to pay its 7,000 Secretariat employees.

The long-term goal is to bring about a strict sense of fiscal responsibility that will make the UN less open to criticism and less vulnerable to cutbacks from its contributors who are more often than not politically motivated.

The UN is in the middle of a financial and political struggle with the United States, its main contributor.

The outcome will inevitably reshape their relationship and determine whether Washington and other principal donors will obtain control of UN spending priorities and appropriations, a power now almost exclusively in the hands of the Third World.

Although the UN financial crisis has built up over the years as a result of partial withholding of assessed contributions from member nations, the Americans were instrumental in forcing it to the forefront.

This year the Reagan Administration announced that it would cut its contribution by \$70 million, which represents about a third of its \$210 million annual assessment.

Since the US is responsible for 25 per cent of the UN budget, the unilateral reduction has sent shock waves throughout its system.

The slashes in the American contributions go beyond the requirements of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings budget control law.

The fact that the State Department has volunteered further cuts in its appropriation has raised what UN officials and diplomats regard as dismaying questions about the Administration's real intentions.

Wrangle for Nato on nerve gases

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Already shaken by divisions over the Libyan crisis, Nato this week faces a further contentious debate over the manufacture and possible use in Europe of new binary chemical weapons.

Ambassadors to Nato meet today in Brussels within the framework of the Defence Planning Group to reach a preliminary decision on deploying binary weapons in Europe. Defence Ministers will take the final decision in Brussels next month.

A decision to stockpile new chemical weapons could create obstacles in disarmament negotiations with the Soviet Union at a time when the superpower relationship is again under strain.

Nato officials point out that the Russians have huge stocks of the weapons, and the West must arm itself with nerve gases in response. They hope that decisions to go ahead with contingency plans will not arouse public opposition in the West comparable to the protests over the deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe.

Last year the US Congress approved an Administration plan for resuming manufacture of chemical weapons for the first time in more than 15 years. But Congress laid down that the weapons should replace, rather than supplement, existing stocks, which are becoming unstable, and that European allies must agree.

This creates political problems for The Netherlands, which faces a general election next month, and for West Germany, which has important local elections shortly afterwards. Neither Government would welcome controversy on arms issues.

Binary chemical weapons are stored in two halves which are harmless apart but form a lethal nerve gas when mixed. It is believed that under the new arrangements the weapons would be stockpiled in America and deployed in Europe in a crisis, after transatlantic consultations.

But the controversy over the use of British bases for the attack on Libya has made officials acutely sensitive to the problems posed by weapons that could be used in Europe while remaining under American control.

Oslo row over polar bear ranch

From Tony Samstag, Oslo

An unprecedented application has been filed with the Norwegian Ministry of Environment for permission to establish a polar bear ranch on a small Arctic island.

Mr Arvid Overgaard, a local policeman, and Mr Inar Hanssen, a machinist, want to bring five female animals and one male from their native Spitsbergen, where they are strictly protected, to Bjarkoy, part of the Western Islands group.

The "ranch" would extend well out to sea, duplicating as far as possible the polar bears' natural habitat. The animals would be bred for their skins, which fetch £500 to £2,000 at auction in Copenhagen.

Specialists at the University of Tromsø's Institute of Arctic Biology confirmed that polar bears do breed in captivity, but consider that the costs of setting up and running the commercial operation would be prohibitive.

The controversial proposal would require exemption from a formidable number of regulations.

The Sysselman, or Norwegian governor of Spitsbergen under the 1920 Treaty of Svalbard, would even have to rule on the question of fencing the animals in, which is forbidden for animal welfare. Opposition from conservationists would be fierce.

The argument that commercial breeding of the animals would be good conservation may prove crucial to the application.

EEC tackles cost of farming deal

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Finance ministers of the European Community met in Luxembourg today to deal with the consequences of a hard-fought compromise over farm prices, which benefits Europe's farmers but has worsened the EEC budget crisis.

Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the West German Finance Minister, will be under pressure to help resolve the crisis by agreeing to a supplementary budget.

The EEC farm price agreement reached on Friday after talks lasting five days will require a supplementary budget of nearly £1 billion. Commission officials said. But Herr Stoltenberg, a firm proponent of budgetary discipline, appears to be determined to resist moves to raise extra cash through increased VAT contributions.

West German officials said here at the weekend that the present ceiling of 1.4 per cent on national VAT contributions to EEC coffers must not be breached before the end of the year at the very earliest.

Bonn's hard line over the budget is due to political, as well as economic reasons. Herr Stoltenberg is seen as a likely successor to Chancellor Kohl, whose Government faces criticism over local elections shortly in Lower Saxony and a general election at the beginning of next year.

At last week's marathon farm talks Herr Ignaz Kiechle, the West German Agriculture Minister, demanded farm price increases but, like other

Russian warning to Western reporters

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A new and severe warning to Western correspondents based in Moscow, whose reporting displeases the Kremlin, has been delivered by an official paper here.

It came in a savage personal attack on the reputation of an American reporter known for close contacts with human rights activists.

The Saturday edition of *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, the Communist Party daily of the Russian Federation, accused Mr Donald Kimmelman, who has been based in Moscow since 1983 for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, of "anti-social conduct" and of writing "anti-Soviet fabrications".

The paper dismissed allegations about the strict restrictions imposed on Western journalists reporting from the Soviet Union.

It warned: "It appears that the time has come to talk about the limits of hospitality for those who come to our country with hardly concealed hatred and enmity and who smear our ways of life, while ignoring our laws and norms of conduct accepted in this country."

The attack on Mr Kimmelman's reporting, including his coverage of the plight of Soviet Jews (he is himself Jewish), was one of the most personal and harshly worded of its kind to appear in the state-controlled media since Mr Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in March 1985.

Under his predecessors, vilification of individual Moscow correspondents was a regular occurrence, but there had been hopes that his communications-conscious style might stop the practice.

The attack in *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, a paper which has been in the vanguard of Mr Gorbachev's campaign for more open reporting, accused Mr Kimmelman of "deliberately left" in a public place of making contact "only with renegades and criminals".

The article, later distributed by Tass, also claimed he was refusing contact with Soviet citizens other than those concerned with the alleged violation of human rights.

Mr Kimmelman was to return to the US this summer to take a senior post as a foreign affairs commentator.

Kohl gives Waldheim his vote

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

The possibility that Dr Kurt Waldheim might be prevented from entering the United States if elected President of Austria seems to have had no effect on Austrian voters.

An opinion poll carried out by the independent Austrian Company for Marketing revealed at the weekend that 60 per cent of voters consider this to be irrelevant and that Dr Waldheim would make a perfectly "respectable" President

who would not "tarnish Austria's reputation abroad."

Eighty-five per cent of those polled were critical of the role of the World Jewish Congress and believed that the organization was "interfering in Austria's internal affairs".

Dr Waldheim also received support from Chancellor Kohl of West Germany, who was in Salzburg on Saturday. Herr Kohl told Austrian radio that he had known Dr Waldheim for years and considered him to be a "great patriot."

"I cannot vote in an Austrian election but if I could I should certainly vote for Dr Waldheim," the West German Chancellor said.

Accuser invited: Dr Waldheim has invited Mr Israel Singer, Secretary-General of the World Jewish Congress, to Austria to disprove allegations that he was a war criminal. He suggested in an interview with the Vienna weekly news magazine *Basta* that Mr Singer should come after the presidential election (Reuter reports).

US vote opens way to free trade talks

From John Best, Ottawa

Canada is getting ready to enter into a complex and politically sensitive set of free trade negotiations with the United States. The chances of success are probably no better than about 50-50.

The way was cleared last week when the US Senate finance committee approved President Reagan's request for authority to launch the negotiations.

But the closeness of the vote — in fact a 10-10 tie, but that was enough to stave off defeat — demonstrated that many US legislators have strong reservations about liberalized bilateral trade.

In Ottawa Mr Brian Mulroney, the Prime Minister, said he was delighted with the verdict. But he acknowledged that events in Washington were proof of the immense challenge posed by the negotiations, which are expected to last up to two years.

In the wake of the Senate committee vote, Canadian opponents of free trade inside and outside the House of Commons expressed concern over promises Mr Reagan may have made to win over wavering Senators. He is known to have twisted arms furiously in the days before the vote to stave off defeat.

Whatever promises were made, Mr Mulroney has made clear that they are not binding on Canada. The coming negotiations are without preconditions, he said repeatedly.

Canada-US trade is already larger than that between any other two countries. Last year it was worth well over \$Can160 billion, with Canada enjoying an \$18 billion surplus.

Room for manoeuvre on three sensitive issues Tamils find merit in peace offering from Colombo

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Although the killings on both sides continue, signs of renewed peace offensive are building up in the Sri Lankan ethnic conflict.

The Foreign Minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, who was in Delhi last week for the meeting of the non-aligned movement, brought with him a document outlining Colombo's latest position on greater autonomy for the Northern and Eastern provinces.

Though details have not been released, the document has been received with some appreciation. Even the General Secretary of the Tamil United Liberation Front, Mr Appalarthi Amirthalingam, said it "opens the door for an advance on the earlier proposals formulated by the Government last August".

The document shows some flexibility over at least three sensitive topics: land settlement, law and order, and representation in services.

It is still clear that President Jayewardene is unwilling to concede any organizational linkage between the two provinces. There was a time when Delhi let it be known that it supported him, but that time has passed. The Indians now feel that they got nothing in return for this concession and have withdrawn it.

The Indian side suggests that it should be possible for any two provinces at least to have joint legislation on common problems, such as any two Indian states might have.

Three representatives of the front came to Delhi to hear what Colombo had to offer and to give their reactions.

Mr Amirthalingam declared that they would also bring to



Chancellor Kohl of West Germany sightseeing in Agra at the weekend before going on to the Tokyo economic summit.

India's attention to the continued killing of Tamils in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

One official whom the three met was Mr Romesh Bhandari, the former Foreign Secretary who retired from the Civil Service to enter politics as head of a Congress (I) international affairs committee but is in reality a special envoy of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister.

He had earlier spent some time with Mr Hameed, first with Mr Gandhi, then tête-à-tête at the residence of the Sri Lankan High Commissioner. There were reported to have been detailed discussions on the scope of Mr Hameed's document, but they did not go far towards narrowing the gap between what the Tamils want and what Colombo is prepared to offer.

Mr Bhandari and a team of

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Opposition assembly delivers ultimatum to Chile regime

From Lake Sagaris, Santiago

In a significant departure from their law-abiding past, leaders of Chile's key social organizations, grouped in the opposition Civil Society, held their national assembly "underground" here at the weekend, defying a ban by the military authorities.

More than 270 delegates, representing over a million Chileans from all walks of life, listened to speeches by leaders of trade unions, professional groups, and women's, students' and lorry owners' organizations.

The secret assembly approved a list of "Chile's demands", calling for an immediate return to democratic

government, an end to human rights violations, the reversal of the military Government's education policies, and sweeping changes in current economic policies. It also established a permanent "Assembly Council".

Speaker after speaker gave a warning that, if the national assembly failed, a bloody civil war would engulf the country.

In the words of Dr Francisco Rivas, one of the speakers: "We face a situation that may break our people's very soul... Mobilization and civil disobedience are our weapons to defeat tragedy and provide our people with a genuine, shining alternative."

The calling of a national assembly by the Civil Society

appears to have been an ingenious way of getting around the apparently insuperable antagonisms between Chile's two most important opposition groups: the Christian Democratic-led Democratic Alliance and the Communist-Socialist Popular Democratic Movement.

Political parties are not directly represented in the assembly. But virtually all the leaders of Civil Society member organizations also belong to a political party, and both opposition coalitions have backed the assembly.

The assembly gave the military Government until May 30 to respond to its demands. Meanwhile, students, women's organizations, universi-

ty professors and workers have called protests which will begin this week.

Señor Hector Moya, president of the Santiago Regional Association of Lorry Owners, has said that his members are considering defaulting on debts of more than \$200 million (£131 million) in an attempt to put pressure on the Government.

More than 700,000 homeowners will hold a referendum this week to decide whether to default on debts of \$1.5 billion.

This is the first time that conservative groups, like the road transport operators and home owners, have joined other groups critical of the regime in an action plan.



A building in Mexico City devastated by the earthquake.

Mexico after the earthquake, 1 Homeless victims surviving on a diet of promises

From John Carlin, Mexico City

When President de la Madrid of Mexico visited the working-class colony of Morelos last month in the wounded heart of Mexico City, the local authorities went into a frenzy of activity, painting walls, filling holes in the roads and knocking on doors warning people of "reprisals" against anyone contemplating anti-government protests.

The object seemed to be to reassure the President that the millions of pounds accumulated the world over for the much-trumpeted National Reconstruction Fund were being put to "good use" and that the promises to give top priority to the needs of the earthquake victims were being fulfilled.

About 23,000 Morelos families were left homeless when catastrophe struck on September 19 last year. Few seem to be impressed by the sudden activity, since virtually all of them remain without a home.

In fact, a pressure group set up by the victims is talking of occupying the Aztec Stadium, where the World Cup football final will be played in June, to embarrass the Government into taking action.

Leaders of the group, which for months has been holding noisy street demonstrations, say they are appalled at the energy being spent on preparations for the World Cup while "no reply is given to the demands of the families affected by the earthquake".

"We're still in an emergency. Things today are just as bad as they were seven months ago in the days just after the earthquake," the head of the local Salvation Army outpost, Captain Raimundo Reyes, said.

"People — thousands more than we can take care of — still don't have enough to eat, nowhere to wash, no place of their own to sleep."

Captain Reyes is viewed as something of a saint by Adriana, aged 28, a mother of three and one of 8,500 homeless victims the Salvation Army provides with a meal each day.

Adriana's home was flattened in the earthquake. Most of her neighbours' houses were, too. She has filled in endless forms seeking financial help from the Government. She has been turned out of countless city council offices. She has taken part in demonstrations at the presidential palace.

For the past seven months Adriana has spent each night with her husband and children on the floor of a beauty salon owned by an aunt. She spends

the day in a tin-roofed hut on the rubble of their home.

"We'd stay and sleep here, but the rats come in and bite the children," she said.

The only assistance she and her neighbours say they have received is from Captain Reyes. Number 1 Corps of the Salvation Army also provides second-hand clothing, a medical clinic, psychotherapy, training courses for the unemployed and even puppet shows for the thousands of children still without homes or schools.

Captain Reyes has received virtually all his financing from overseas — including Britain — but as money begins to run short there is no sign of the Government coming to the rescue.

What government money has been spent in Morelos has built — only very recently — a series of supposedly temporary dwellings, which many fear could become their permanent homes.

Made of wood, cardboard and inflammable plastic, these one-room, one-family row after row of them, are protected by high wire fences. "Concentration camps" are what the locals call them. On the walls of one, a typically disgruntled inmate has written in big, bold letters, "Penitentiary for sale".

Señor Francisco Cano, a car mechanic aged 31, is trying to save money to build a new house out of bricks chiselled from the rubble of his original home.

"I've tried and tried, but I've given up hope now of getting anything from the Government. They promise a lot but give you nothing," he said.

Señor Cano, who now lives under a tin roof with his wife and three remaining children, was not at home when the earthquake struck. He was out for an early morning run, preparing for the annual Mexico City marathon. His eldest daughter, aged 12, and a son aged four were killed.

He had promised both of them he would run in the marathon in December. "Over the last kilometre I was so doubled up with pain I thought I wouldn't make it, but when I thought how disappointed my two children would have been, I made a last effort and got to the finishing line," he said.

Now he is training again, steeling himself for this year's race with the doggedness and unillusioned self-sufficiency of one of the many thousands in Mexico City who have had to learn to live in a permanent state of emergency.

Tomorrow: The miracle babies

US ready for Central America policy shift

Panama City (AFP) — The United States is conditionally ready to stop backing Contra rebels fighting the Nicaraguan Government, according to Señor Jorge Abadía, the Panamanian Foreign Minister.

Señor Abadía was speaking on Saturday after meeting Mr Philip Habib, the special American envoy who is winding up a fact-finding tour.

He said the US was prepared to be more flexible in its Central America policy.

The flexibility would include immediate cessation of support for the Contras after signature of the Contadora peace and co-operation agreement.

He welcomed the new American position as a substantive and concrete contribution to the peace-making efforts of the Contadora mediating group (Panama, Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia).

Haiti fury after troops open fire on crowd

Port-au-Prince (AP) — Political leaders have condemned Haiti's ruling council after a clash between soldiers and citizens left at least six people dead and 21 others injured.

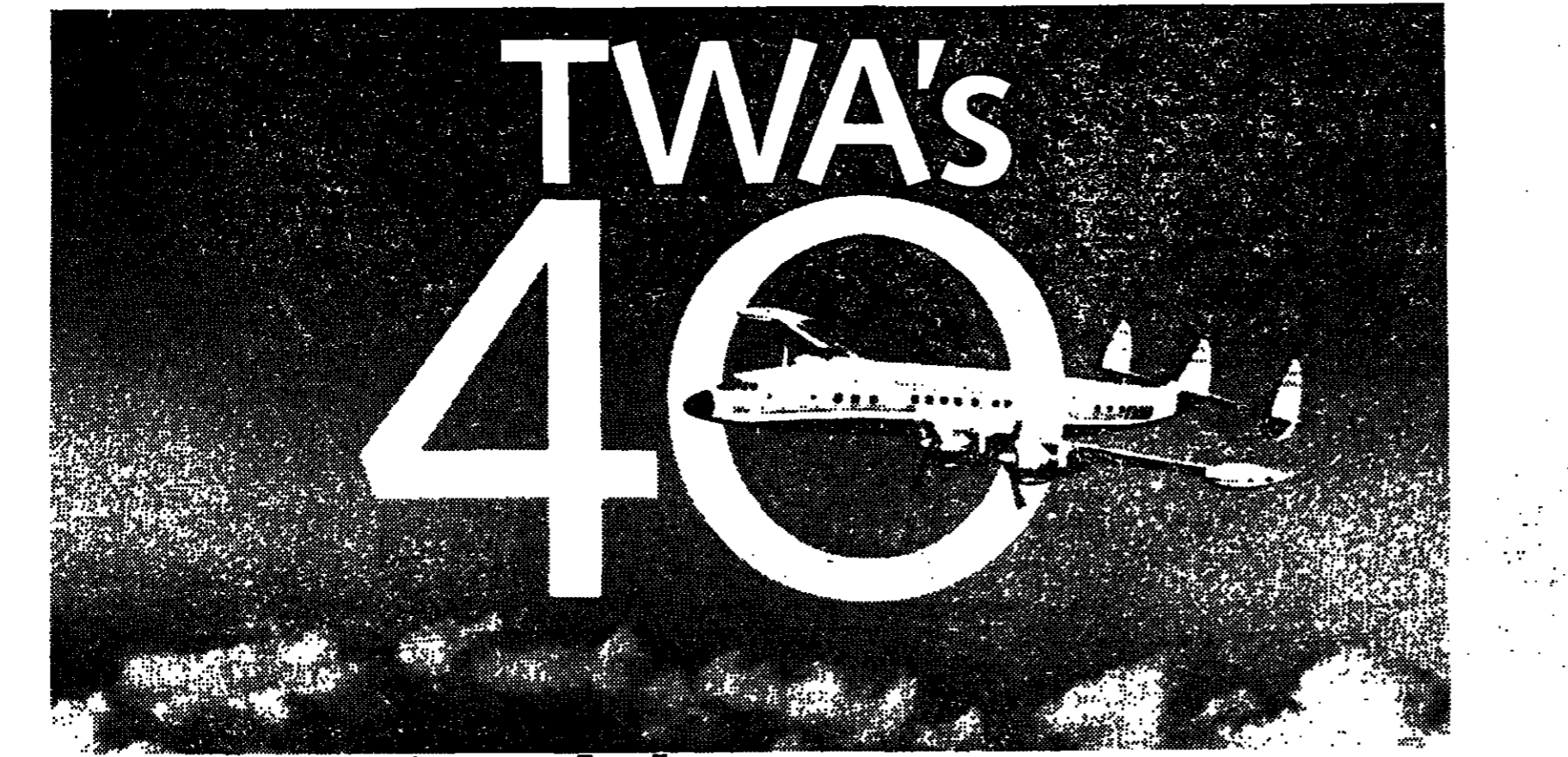
The council has lost the faith of the people," Mr Hubert Deronceray, a presidential candidate in elections the council has pledged to hold, said on Saturday night.

"The Haitian political crisis is deepening."

Earlier on Saturday, soldiers fired into a crowd that tried to force its way into a notorious prison.

The incident began peacefully as a march to honour a family killed during former President Duvalier's rule.

Three people were killed by gunshots, according to officials at University State Hospital, and three others apparently were electrocuted by a fallen power line.



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How Briton lost taste for Contra adventure

From Patricia Clough, San José

Mr John Davies, a British instructor of Nicaraguan Contra guerrillas, sipped his first beer of freedom after his release from a Costa Rican jail and said his brief career as an anti-Communist fighter was now over.

Mr Davies, from Bridgnorth, Shropshire, was freed on £600 bail on Friday after a year and a day in San José jail. He was arrested with another Briton, Mr Stephen Glibbery, of Solihull, West Midlands, and two Americans, a Frenchman and 14 Nicaraguans when Costa Rican police discovered their training camp not far from the Nicaraguan border. Mr Glibbery is expected to be released soon.

The group were charged with possessing explosives and with actions hostile to the state, which Mr Davies takes to mean violating Costa Rica's neutrality. He has been ordered to report regularly to the police and will not be allowed to leave the country before the trial begins, possibly in June.

Relaxing at a modern apartment hotel on the outskirts of San José, Mr Davies, aged 23, said: "I came here to fight communism. It was a question of idealism; it was all very romantic. I had been reading a lot about this part of the world, and I paid my own way out here."

"I was not involved in any hostilities," he said. "I was just training the Contras. I never went into Nicaragua." He had been with the Contras

only about two months before he was arrested. His year in prison had made him lose the taste for adventure, he said.

He said he served for three years in the British Army, first with The Royal Green Jackets in Berlin and Northern Ireland and later with the Army Air Corps.

Asked if he and his group were financed by the Americans, he was silent for a few seconds, then said cautiously: "Reagan is giving money to the Contras, and one could assume that this is the way it was financed." He was not given any money by the Americans directly.

"The Contras will not overthrow the Sandinistas, not in a hundred million years, even if they get the \$100 million which Reagan wants to give them," he said. "Only the United States can overthrow the Sandinistas."

He had been alone in his cell, but was able to talk to people in other cells. They had an hour of exercise a day and lived on the eternal Central American diet of rice and beans.

The Costa Rican Justice Minister, Señor Hugo Alfonso Muñoz, told *The Times* it was absolutely necessary to increase and reorganize the police to keep a check on Contra actions in Costa Rica.

"The Contras can stay here, but on important conditions which derive from the right of asylum and Costa Rica's neutrality," he said.

China wants its scrolls

Dunhuang (Reuter) — The curator of China's ancient Buddhist caves of Dunhuang pleaded yesterday for the return of thousands of precious scrolls and manuscripts removed early this century to museums in Western Europe.

The scrolls, between 1,000 and 1,600 years old, had been sealed in a secret cave near the desert oasis until almost 40,000 fell into the hands of foreigners soon after their discovery in 1900.

"What we hope is that Dunhuang can be reconstructed as a single unit with everything intact as it was and as it should be," the curator, Mr Duan Wenjie, said. "These are

China's national treasures and I feel very strongly in my heart that they should be in China."

About 10,000 of the 50,000 items are in the British Museum, 8,000 in French museums, and a further 20,000 are in 14 other countries.

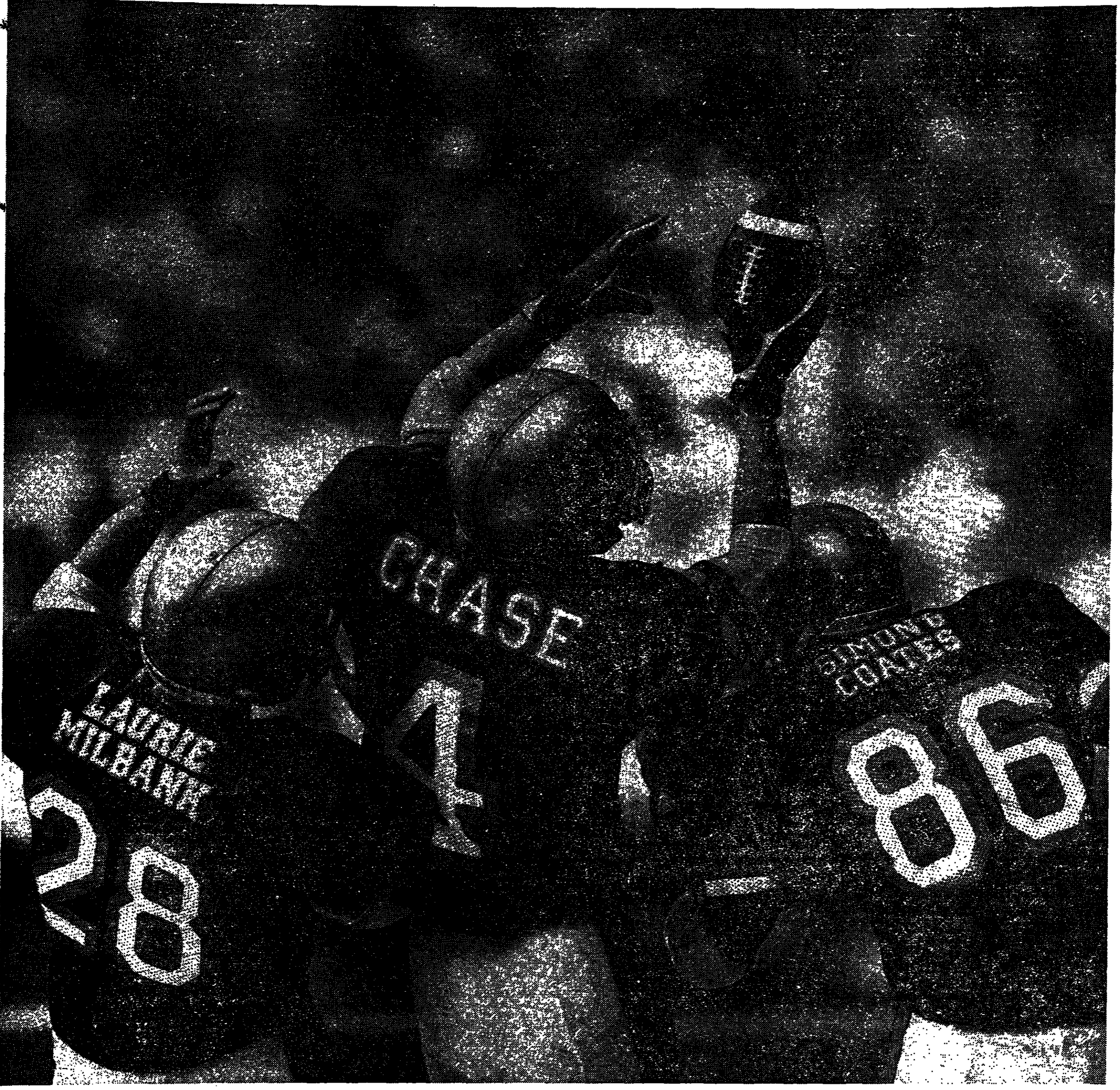
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THE CHASE PARTNERSHIP



The battle of the New River

Britain's water supplies are the latest Government target for privatization. Today, as the environment department issues a consultation paper, Richard North reviews the arguments and looks at the related threat to one ancient waterway

The New River, which runs very gently from Hertfordshire to Stoke Newington, north London, is venerable. A man-made watercourse, built in the first years of the 17th century, it provided the first supply of "sweet waters" to be piped to London from the countryside and has been supplying the capital with water ever since.

It is, however, about to become redundant, as the water industry's own M25, an underground ringmain, will replace it at the end of the decade.

An anxious group of residents — "The Save the Reservoirs, Filter Beds and New River Campaign" — gathers regularly to plot the conservation of the river, with its 60 acres of reservoirs and 20 acres of filter beds in Stoke Newington, welcome expanses of open water among council tower blocks and gentrified terraces. They attract flocks of ducks, geese and swans and the London Wildlife Trust has been funded by the Thames Water Authority (the owner since 1973 of the entire New River and its works) to survey the wildlife interest of the system. John Newton, the trust's conservation officer, says: "The New River is a unique wildlife resource in Greater London for aquatic plants, insects and birds. Its value as a corridor bringing wildlife into the city is inestimable; its loss would have a severe effect."

The campaigners fear that Thames Water will try to sell the land to the highest bidder, and that their precious open space will be filled in by exclusive housing or, worse, industrial units. Their anxiety has been fuelled by the authority's manager of property and estates, Mr M. Chapman, who, in a letter to one local resident on the subject of land disposal said: "It is our statutory duty to obtain the best price that we can."

The campaign's secretary, Peter Gosnell, says: "With a modest display of imagination a great deal could be done in this respect by providing homes and industrial estates on the many derelict sites in the borough". The authority has said it will announce plans for the sites in May or June.

That Thames Water would sell some at least of the land was inevitable, with or without privatization. But residents believe that as a public authority it would have been more amenable to "public interest" arguments than it may prove to be as a straightforward commercial enterprise.

For their part, the authority's spokeswoman says: "We recog-

nize the New River has an amenity value. We're trying to find a suitable compromise — one which helps alleviate pressure for housing and jobs locally while improving the amenity value of the river and at least some of the reservoirs and filter beds, which are, after all, not even open to the public at the moment."

This last point particularly upsets the campaigners. Peter Gosnell, a retired civil servant and a council tenant on an estate which overlooks the New River, says: "When the flats round the reservoirs were opened in 1949 there was a proud boast that a promenade by the water had been built for residents. Unfortunately someone erected a fence and forgot to put a gate in it. Instead they put up a notice warning us about guard dogs. It has never been open."

Most of the local authorities along the route have come to an agreement with Thames Water, but Hackney Borough Council — which has the reservoirs and the filter beds in its bailiwick — has not. Its planners are broadly sympathetic to the campaign.

The residents believe the site would greatly benefit from a water sports centre and aquatic wildlife park — not least for the several schools nearby. Last week they formed a subcommittee to explore the sorts of "green" business that might also work on the site.

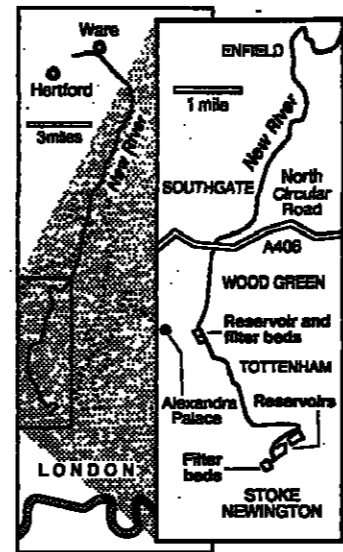
The preservation of the New River is likely to attract enthusiasts of industrial archaeology. Flowing from the springs of Hertford and Ware, it originally ambled for nearly 40 miles, right through to a Round Pond, constructed just by Sadler's Wells. The reservoirs, with their grade two listed pumping station known locally as Hackney Castle, were built in the mid 19th century, and the route shortened to 27 miles.

The New River Company still exists, as part of a property firm (it sold the river works to the Metropolitan Water Board at the turn of this century). It is, according to Bernard Rudden, Professor of Comparative Law at Oxford University, and author of *The New River, a Legal History* (Clarendon Press, £20): "the oldest surviving business company in the English-speaking world, possibly the whole world".

On the memorial to Sir Hugh Myddleton, the merchant adventurer who built the New River, it is described as "an immortal work". It seems unlikely that it will be allowed to dry up without a considerable scrap.



Troubled waters: campaigners (clockwise from bottom left) Elaine and Peter Gosnell, Jo Specter, David Pracy and Jim Merry fear that privatization means the New River system will be sold to the highest bidder by Roy Watts (top centre), chairman of Thames Water Authority, which owns it. Right: the New River Head in Hertfordshire



GOING PRIVATE

The Government intends to announce a water industry privatization Bill in this year's Queen's Speech. It would restructure the 10 water authorities as water service public limited companies (NSPLCs) which will be floated into public ownership individually. The five or so more profitable authorities would be floated soon after the Act comes into force, presumably in the early summer of 1987.

they are expected to raise about £1 billion each.

The financial aspects of the NSPLCs, including pricing, will be controlled by a Director-General of Water Services at the Department of the Environment. Ultimately the Secretary of State for the Environment would account to Parliament for environmental, water quality and pricing matters.

ENVIRONMENTAL WARNINGS

At present, water authorities operate and police many of the controls which apply to private industry (and, anomalously, themselves) as they discharge effluent and treated sewage into the nation's watercourses.

"Suppose it should happen that a major shareholder of a water company was itself polluting, and applied pressure on the board of the company to take an easy line on the matter?" asks David Con-

dor, of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE).

"And how do you reconcile looking after shareholders and, say, cleaning up the Mersey which it is estimated will require £4 billion over the next 20 or 30 years?"

The nation needs to spend money on long-term infrastructure: by one reckoning, not less than £16 billion on underground

water and sewage pipes alone.

The CPRE and others are also very concerned that reform of the control of land drainage, which has damaged many wildlife habitats, may be delayed because of privatization. Many of the water companies' activities could be environmentally damaging without the will and money to undertake them sensitively (as some authorities are now praised for having realized).

POWER OF THE AUTHORITIES

One or two authorities are tremendous enthusiasts for privatization, notably the most affluent, Thames Water, and its chairman, Roy Watts.

In 1984, he led a campaign against a Government-enforced price rise. Ministers wanted the authority to finance its capital expenditure with current earnings rather than borrowing and made Thames pay off debt far quicker than Thames thought it needed to.

"The government has used us as a milch cow", says Watts. Before the protest, the Government had repeatedly declared that privatization was not on the agenda. Within months it was at the top of the list.

Thames delights in the expectation of "getting the Government off our back" and "borrowing on the private capital market with no worries about the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement." Privatized our prices will be much lower than they would have been and our payments to shareholders will be much less than our payments to government would have been."

John Elfed Jones, chairman of Welsh Water, says of privatization: "Initially we came to the conclusion that there would be no discernible benefits emerging, and we came out against it". But, accepting the inevitable, they have since decided to "negotiate robustly to get the best possible deal".

Mr Jones accepts that raising money for long-term projects may be easier after privatization. "We want very rigorously defined standards to be imposed on us after privatization: not just in matters of potable water and sound sewage disposal, but also to do with the general environment."

On Merseyside, the North West Water Authority has vast debts and enormous expenditure is needed to replace old infrastructure: it will need a special deal — probably involving massive debts written off.

GOVERNMENT'S GOAL

Today, Mr John Patten, environment minister responsible for water, publishes a consultation paper, *The Water Environment: The Next Steps*. It will reveal that the Government does not propose an independent body to police the environmental activities of private water companies. (Instead it is believed to want to create a new body with a wider brief along the lines of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.)



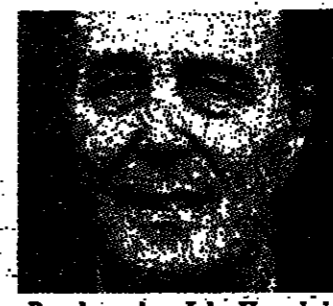
Moreover, there is no plan to publish an annual "State of the Industry" report, although the proposed DoE based Water Pollution Inspectorate will probably report annually.

Proposed safeguards include:

- Anyone with evidence of poor practice by water authorities to be able to appeal to the Secretary of State;
- Guidelines of good environmental practice to be laid down in statute form;
- Statutory force to be given to objectives and standards for river and estuary water quality;
- Current levels of environmental spending to be maintained and monitored;
- "Protection zones" where potentially polluting practices to be regulated.

WHO WILL GAIN?

Paul Herrington, a water economist at Leicester University, says: "I've searched the White Paper (*Privatization of the Water Authorities in England and Wales*) in vain for serious evidence that the general public will gain. The merchant bankers, accountants and the Treasury will, but few others. This is a case not of selling the family silver but the family plumbing."



John Humphries, a board member of Thames Water, believes that the Government has no right to sell the water authorities. "When the ratepayers and others were building up the assets of their local public health services — which is what water and sewerage services are — they were doing so for themselves and their children, not for the benefit of the Treasury."

In a letter to *The Times* last

THE WORLD'S MOST EXCLUSIVE TAILORS

are generally reckoned to be Crocker and Devenish of New Burlington Street. Such is the perfectionism of these skilled craftsmen, that both of them are involved in the cutting of each pair of trousers: Albert Crocker specialises in left legs, while his partner, Humphrey Devenish specialises in right legs. Only those young gentlemen who put their names down at birth can hope to be considered as possible customers. Unless of course they are foreigners, in which case they will never be considered. In each of the fitting rooms there is a Harley-Davidson Electra Glide motorcycle, so that the young blades can check the fit of their trousers while in the saddle, and all customers are offered a glass of Merrydown Vintage Cider while waiting to be measured. This cider is produced in limited quantities each year by a unique blending process, and each bottle bears the date of the vintage on its label. The apples used in the fermentation are all fine English apples like Bramleys and Cox's, rather than the bitter little cider apples used in other brands designed for those with more "off-the-peg" tastes. It is available in two subtly differing varieties: Merrydown Vintage and Merrydown Vintage Dry. Should you be inclined to sample either, you should find that a reputable office will come up with the goods even more promptly than your tailor.



Survival of a well-oiled fall guy

A fortnight ago, *Dallas* contained a typical humiliation of Cliff Barnes, J. R. Ewing's ill-starred business rival. In full view of the tuxedoed guests at the Oil Barons' Ball, Cliff's wife flung a plate of gâteau in his face. Fumbling to regain his equilibrium, he cried: "Whatta gal!" and forced out a long, unconvincing laugh. Moments later, he sauntered into the dining hall, having forgotten to wipe clean his face.

Ken Kercheval has played Cliff for eight seasons of *Dallas*, turning the part into

Cliff Barnes may be Dallas's archetypal loser but he always bounces back . . .

one of the consistent joys of a series whose quality is as variable as the relationships of its leading characters. In London for his honeymoon and obligatory trial by *Wogan* on BBC 1 tonight, Kercheval claims credit for the comic embellishments. "It's unrealistic that this guy, who slips so

often, sometimes doesn't fall on his ass humorously."

In Kercheval's interpretation, Cliff is a millionaire with an emotional age of 10. Unlike J. R., who brilliantly conceals his designs, Cliff is childishly incapable of hiding anything, granted dispensation even to cry. Fastened to the better-skier of the plot, Cliff treats the twin imposters, triumph and disaster, just the same: badly, with a bottle in his hand. Like a child, too, he desperately equates material possessions with happiness.

Yet Cliff was not always thus retarded. In synopses for the original 1978 mini-series, he was a college-educated barrister with political ambitions in the Democratic party, determined to avenge the Ewings' destruction of his father by rooting out corruption from the oil state. Playing on Kercheval's physical resemblance, he was to be modelled on Ted Kennedy.

For Kercheval, who fought his way out of dead-end jobs to his first break on Broadway, Cliff was the latest of many suit-and-tie television roles. A lover of the country, whose fame has bought him his own popcorn farm, he read for the part of *Dallas*'s farm hand, Ray Krebbe. "I didn't want to play Cliff but I needed the money," he says.

The rest is television history. Ever since Cliff claimed



Barnes stormer: Ken Kercheval that he was the father of Sue Ellen's baby and blood tests instead perversely proved J. R.'s paternity, there has been one certainty: Cliff, painfully lacking the Ewings' familial props or their expertise on horseback, will never best them.

Kercheval insists, however, that Cliff is a survivor. Of all J. R.'s adversaries over the years, he points out, Cliff alone remains. "I'm the coyote in the *Road Runner* cartoon. I'm dropped off cliffs. I fall 50 yards down a man hole and when I look out over the top, a car comes and steamrollers me. Yet my flattened, two-dimensional remains pop up and start chasing the road runner again."

Andrew Billen

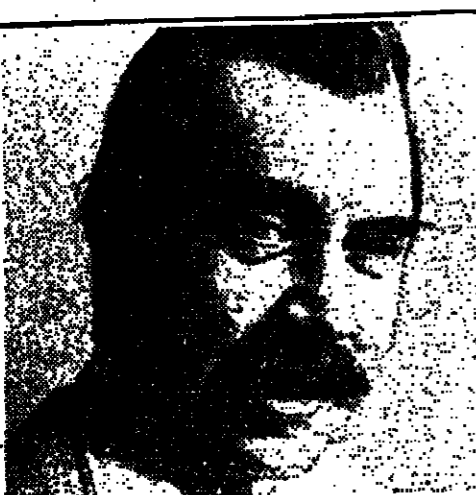
CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 936

ACROSS

- 1 Obligations (5)
- 4 Rotate anti clockwise (7)
- 8 Dirt (5)
- 9 Dignity (7)
- 10 Choirboy vestment (8)
- 11 Bubbly drink (4)
- 13 Islands group (11)
- 17 Anger (4)
- 18 Wrong name (8)
- 21 Moscow citadel (7)
- 22 Deviant (5)
- 23 Nose hole (7)
- 24 Spacious (5)

DOWN

- 1 Assimilate (6)
- 2 Pipe wood (5)
- 3 Furtive (8)
- 4 Not unusual (13)
- 5 Without (4)
- 6 Stealing (7)
- 7 Trick (6)
- 12 Loud noise (8)
- 14 Revert (7)
- 15 Disrupted (6)
- 16 Frightening (6)
- 19 Slogan (5)
- 20 Aspiration (4)



Bill Wilson is incurable. He's not unhelpable.

Bill Wilson wanted to be a farmer or a chef. His uncle owned a farm in Kilmarnock where Bill was born. As it happened, Bill became a chef with the BMA. He is softly spoken, and has a warm sense of humour. Some years ago, he suffered a stroke which left him severely paralysed. He came to us at Putney — a long way from his uncle's farm.

But Bill doesn't let things get him down.

He exercises with determination, loves to play chess (though he's short of opponents), goes to museums and occasionally cooks in the patients' kitchen.

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Tomorrow Dire Straits: The end of a supergroup's supertour

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Goodbye to half a lifetime

...but the second half might be even better. In a month when Jane Asher and Hayley Mills both turn 40, Caroline Moorehead looks at new attitudes to that notorious milestone

Joan Collins is the name many women mention when you ask them how it feels to turn 40. Almost single-handedly she seems to have made it possible, not merely for the about-to-be 50-year-olds but also for those facing that most dreaded of birthdays — the end of the fourth decade — to contemplate the event without trepidation. Or at least with considerably less trepidation than before the days of *Dynasty*. Women turning 40 all speak of Ms Collins with wonder and relief. If you can look like that, if you can behave like that at 52, who cares what 40 brings?

Yet 40 itself, the birthday, still pricks. It doesn't take much of that advertised shampoo. After 40, to underline the message that 40 implies change. There is life before 40, so the assumption goes: youthful, chirpy, full of hope and possibility. And there is life after 40: responsible, with views and opinions, in neat tailored suits.

That nothing actually alters is immaterial: many women believe themselves altered.

Clare Francis, who had her fortieth birthday on April 17, said: "You can never quite leave behind the feelings of horror of your mother's generation, that at 40 a

altogether be ignored. Naomi Buch, who turned 40 last August, did so with disbelief and revulsion: the event most feared in her life, the unattractable descent into middle age, had finally arrived. She was no longer able to play the games she had enjoyed with her small daughter, by now a horrifyingly adult 16. Right up until she was a hulking 13 years old, I used to say to her: "Darling, if any one asks how old you are, say you're three."

But then, few women are confronted on their fortieth birthday with an ordeal such as that faced by Naomi Buch. She was appearing — naked — in Athol Fugard's *Statements After an Arrest Under the Immorality Act*. "I have never before been asked, as an actress, to take my clothes off. It seemed a defiance against my birthday." After the play, she celebrated the occasion by crying all night over gallons of wine in a restaurant. But 40 passed and her life has improved beyond all memory. Not long afterwards, she fell in love: she now feels secure, attractive. Her only worry is that there are fewer parts for older actresses.

If Naomi Buch faced up to her fortieth birthday with consternation, Dilys Watling, who opened in *Time* this month, views hers on May 5 with delight. She likes birthdays; the more momentous the age, the better the party. She recently married the Welsh actor Owen Teale and has a five-month-old son, Ion.

The fact that her husband is 16 years younger is, she says, extremely reassuring: she feels good. As a former dancer she is also fit. "I'm more confident. I don't have to compete. Being 40 means nothing to me. I think it's all to do with staying the course. I'd much rather be me now than a 21-year-old trying to get into the business. I'd rather have a track record."

Maybe it is better to turn 40 in business than on the stage. Laraine Ashton has been a businesswoman



Fresh at 40: Laraine Ashton, Clare Francis (top right) and Dilys Watling (bottom right)

for 15 years, running her own successful model agency. But it is a career where age and looks matter. It is not, however, the presence of pretty 16-year-olds that depresses her — she accepts, laughing, that she is now old enough to be their mother — but simply that 40 is a symbol of growing older. "I find it killing. I can't stand it. It terrifies me. All this rubbish about 40 being a wonderful age — ah yes, but for how long?"

At 25 she longed to be a little older, to possess some of the gravitas she felt sure would come with age. The gravitas came and went, unperceived. "There wasn't a moment when I felt this is just right." She talks of mild physical complaints but admits to a better life generally.

She travels where and when she wants, she feels no constraints about what she can wear — "the terrible expression 'mutton dressed as lamb' has, thank God, gone" — and she has stopped trying to please everyone. "I do things my way."

She is single and has no children, but doesn't exclude the possibility that she might. "A hundred years

ago, to turn 40 — well, to turn 25 — meant you were a spinster. That's absolutely gone. I look at my contemporaries, married, divorced, perhaps even twice, with grown-up kids. I might still just do it all, back to front."

Where do the models themselves go at the dreaded age of 40? She laughs: "To a little graveyard in the sky."

According to Tom Sheridan, of the International Model Agency, it is quite the contrary. Some do very well, at least "those who mellow into everyone's typical image of a soft and friendly mum".

A reminder of passing time is what hurts

Turning 40 is just a question of how you feel. Kim Lavelly, of the Well Woman Centre, reports that its total physical check-up service is much in demand "by women on, or turning, 40; it's as if these mainly professional women suddenly feel the urge to reassure themselves that all is well".

Clare Francis agrees that it is a moment for reassessment, but in her case a satisfying one: the sailing she did in her twenties and thirties has given way to her much enjoyed writing and far greater confidence. "I'm sure young people look at me and think that woman is middle-aged. But I think I look pretty good. I feel terrific. I eat healthy food, I run a bit, I don't drink. It's important not to get in a rut. I try different clothes. I have my hair spiky. I'm glad to be a woman now, though perhaps 10 years hence would be better — the pioneering will be over of the way then."

She adds, however, that turning 40 does matter: it has to matter, but in a somewhat unexpected way. "It's to do with the passage of time. I hear the word 'forty': half my life gone. Time becomes precious."

Her words were repeated, almost identically, by each of the other women. As Naomi Buch put it: "I never wanted to be 40. It means I'm growing older. I'm very afraid of growing old." The reminder that time is passing, not the fact of being 40, is what hurts.

The etiquette of economics

Do not think that because the Government has issued a Green Paper on the Taxation of Men and Women that the problems of females and their finances have been settled.

The whole area is as fraught with uncertainty as it always has been, and always will be until hell freezes over or waiters stop handing the bill to a male diner who happens to be the guest of the woman at the same table — whichever comes first.

It is true that in some situations women twitter needlessly over money matters. That astute social commentator Sally Vincent once wrote that she could never see why a woman should be embarrassed at buying her round in a pub. All she had to do was ask the assembled company what it wanted, walk up to the bar counter, give the order, pay up and carry the glasses back.

This is a perfect plan as long as the assembled company doesn't contain a man who thinks that all women should model themselves on Her Majesty and not carry money about their person. (Although if it is true that HM doesn't walk about with wads of fivers, why does she need to have a handbag as big as a good-sized overnight case forever over her arm?)

The questions are really those of etiquette rather than economics. For instance, how many times do you allow a man to take you out to dinner before you start flapping your own credit card around? Or is there supposed to be a tacit deal struck that he runs up an overdraft in return for your beautiful body?

In which case, is it morally acceptable for you to get his beautiful body at no extra charge?

How can you tell, after a fairly short acquaintance, whether the man you are currently walking out with belongs to the breed who would blush with mortification if you offered to pay for his entrance ticket to the V & A or gnaw his lower lip in disapproval if you didn't?

I suppose that a good rule of thumb is that if he tends to trip you up in his haste to walk on the kerbside of the pavement he belongs to the first kind, and if he lets you do most of the driving he belongs to the second.

These are particularly baffling times for the rather older woman of the type that American sociologists refer to as the "displaced homemaker", as if she had been pushed bodily into the front garden. For several decades she has become used to having a man around the place who paid for everything from the school fees to the newsagent's bill, so when love comes calling for the second time, she doesn't have the remotest idea how much she is supposed to finance it. Half the hotel bill for the romantic weekend? The outings? The drinks? Or should she just send him a thank-you note and a pot plant on Monday morning?

The ground rules for financial responsibility between the sexes are so flimsy that I think that everybody is allowed to make them up as they go along. For myself, I have decided that the way to a bad time is not parting with my money but organization.



PENNY PERRICK

So the particular bargain that I strike is that I pay for theatre tickets and dinners out if someone else will fritter away hours of his time dealing with box-offices that are always engaged and restaurateurs who make you spell out your name three times before they reluctantly agree to let you book a table. If I ever meet a man with tax-shelters and original Renoirs, I suppose I shall have to change.

As women take on more monetary clout, it is interesting to see what comes naturally and what goes against the grain. I suspect that signing cheques for the mortgage, the water rates and the service charges merely bolster one's sense of being the New Woman incarnate. Whereas having to provide one's own Cabochard and white tulips make one feel like an Old Bode.

If you find it difficult to express yourself, you will be pleased to hear that the American greetings card industry can now do it for you with several lines of "personal-relationship-orientated cards". A range called the In Touch line even has verses created by a consulting psychiatrist.

Hallmark cards, which were once all hearts and flowers, now sell an item that reads: "You're getting married? I didn't even know you were sleeping together." And there's another that shows a harassed working woman at an overflowing desk, saying to herself: "There's no place like home". The picture inside shows her at home, up to her elbows in housework. I wonder what the appropriate occasion is to send off that little item?

A spokesman for the Greeting Card Association says that "greeting cards probably reflect societal changes more rapidly and more accurately than any other industry". This is rather alarming news since it suggests that the time may be passing when, after hours of searching for a piece of paper, an envelope and a pen with ink in it and after much head-scratching, we were able to write a letter that was all our own work.

For actresses, it cannot be ignored

woman's life as an attractive and sexy person is over. It may still be possible to have fun — but you are distinctly past your best."

If nothing else, there is the surprise of it can Hayley Mills, forever the sweet little girl in *Tiger Bay*, really be 40? Can Jane Asher have really turned that hateful corner, and can Joanna Lumley, her co-star in *Blithe Spirit*, currently playing at the Vaudeville, be about 10?

For actresses, however sturdily they approach it, the hurdle cannot

Sweeter life for a young diabetic

Max seemed a normal, healthy, adventurous eight-year-old boy in the long hot summer of 1976. He was passionate about sport, a member of the school choir and played the recorder.

When he started drinking excessive amounts of water and soft drinks his parents, David and Penny Thomas, assumed his thirst was due to the weather. They put his listlessness down to the heatwave, too, and at first they did not notice his loss of weight.

It was not until he began to wet the bed that they became alarmed. Suspecting an infection of some kind, they took him to their doctor. "When he suggested that Max might have diabetes we were stunned", David Thomas recalls.

Max went into hospital for tests and treatment. The doctor's suspicions were confirmed, and life for Max and his parents would never be the same again. But neither, they decided, would it be diminished.

He was one of between 1,500 and 2,000 children under the age of 16 in Britain who each year are discovered to have diabetes. The onset of the condition is often brutally sudden, and its diagnosis is invariably shattering for the family.

Immediately imposed on Max and his parents was an

At the age of eight Max Thomas was diagnosed a diabetic. His story is told in a new book, designed to give parents hope

essential regime of blood sugar tests, meticulously careful diet planning and preparation and, most of all, what some specialists have described as "the tyranny of the needle" — the probability of insulin injections every day for the rest of his life.

Max's story, typical of many such cases, is included in an important new book, *Care of the Child with Diabetes*, published earlier this month. It is the story of how he and his family have learnt to cope with his condition. Above all, it is a heartening example to all parents of how diabetes in childhood can be tackled successfully and how its victims can shake off its shadows.

When Max came home from hospital, his parents tried to reshape the family routine. "The first couple of nights, neither of us slept particularly well, and we left all the bedroom doors open. Even now, that is still the family practice", his father says. Mealtimes were dictated by



Living life to the full: Max Thomas with his parents Penny and David

Max's needs, and his sister Lisa and his parents tried to eat the same food as he did to avoid discrimination. The family's strategy was to emphasize that he was not going to be treated unfairly because of his condition.

Diabetics are prone to attacks of hypoglycaemia and hyperglycaemia — deficiencies or excesses of sugar in the blood, better known perhaps as simply "insulin-reactions", and referred to by many sufferers as "hypos" and "hypers".

Max's first mild "hypos" came when he was about nine. "One night we were awoken

by Max apparently talking. He was behaving as though he were drunk. His speech was very slurred and indistinct, and the pupils of his eyes were widely dilated. We gave him two glucose tablets which we made him chew and within a few minutes he was awake and speaking as clear as a bell."

Two years passed and Max experienced his first severe "hypos". The evening meal at the Thomas home was spaghetti bolognese. Max seemed "rather vacant". He started to play with his food. His parents tried giving him some "defizzed" cola, but that made him violently sick. "He then

went into a fit". David Thomas remembers. "His face twisted, his eyes rolled up, and he went rigid. My wife tried phoning the hospital, but couldn't get through. Finally she reached our local GP who agreed to come immediately."

"It's difficult to describe adequately our feelings of panic and helplessness in trying to respond to a situation we had not met before." The doctor arrived within 10 minutes and gave Max a glucose injection. The boy was put to bed, the crisis over.

Since then Max has conquered several mild reactions and one severe one, and he

and his parents now feel sufficiently confident to deal with them when they occur. They have been assured that children never die in such an attack. Understandably, however, their anxieties remain.

Max has been active in school sports, particularly rugby. He was a cub, then a scout, a member of a Sunday football team, and a keen participant in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.

What of the future? The worst assessment of life expectancy for a diabetic child is just 40 years, a prognosis that might be discarded as pessimistic within the next decade.

Dr Arnold Bloom, a consultant physician and chairman of the British Diabetic Association, says advances in research and treatment are continually improving the prospects. These advances increasingly offer a better and longer life. "Everything depends on how well parents look after the diabetic child and how well that child looks after himself or herself in adulthood", Dr Bloom says.

Thomson Prentice

Care of the Child with Diabetes, edited by Professor J.D. Baum and Dr A.L. Kinnmonth (Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, £24). The British Diabetic Association is at 10 Queen Anne Street, London W1 (01-323 1531).

Put pain out in the cold



Back strain, a touch of stiffness, a pulled muscle or the effect of lumbago or sciatica can all be unpleasantly painful.

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Unlike most other pain relief sprays, PR Spray is cold. It is the spray used by professional trainers attending injuries.

PR Spray which is odourless, rapidly lowers the temperature of the skin over the painful area, and so freezes pain out — quickly and effectively.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Educated guesses

Who on earth would want the job of sorting out the turmoil in Britain's schools? In fact, at least 12 politicians consider themselves in the running for the post of Education Secretary...

Hot pursuit

Lancashire coppers are chortling over what they swear is a true story concerning two women who, driving to work, spotted a box marked "microwave" lying apparently abandoned on a pavement...

Anchor's o' ve'h

Maybe Nicol Williamson, currently boring for Britain in ITV's Lord Mountbatten: The Last Victory, would have had more fun in a series based on the new book, Mountbatten and the Men of the Navy...

Bach-lash

Last week's disclosure that an American company has refused to locate in Wales because it objects to the populace's accent has outraged Welsh Labour MPs...

Split vote

A Tory candidate for Camden council, Paul Crossman, says he has discovered the cost of socialism. Canvassing at Vernon Court flats, he learned that the borough boundary with Barnet cuts through flats 26 and 27...

Raising Cain

The BBC is to use Jeffrey Archer as ammunition in the TV ratings war during the World Cup this summer. The American-made mini-series of his novel Cain and Abel, originally scheduled for September, is now set to be shown in two parts...

PHS

Not only is the Nordic spring later than usual this year, it has already cost the region a Viking's ransom in a series of industrial conflicts that threaten to tumble well into the summer.

Defining the American role

by Elie Kedourie

The most important question raised by America's strike against Libya is whether it is an affirmation of a new strategic approach to the Mediterranean and the Middle East...

With the exception of Britain, the European members of Nato have preferred to avoid antagonizing Libya, rather than help the ally on whose power they depend for protection against Soviet ambitions...

There remains the matter of exports to Libya, and the employment of a relatively small number of Europeans have found in that country. If exports and jobs are beneficial to European countries, imports and Western expertise are essential to Libya.

governments cannot be guided exclusively by economic interests. Whether this particular US venture succeeds or not, the behaviour of its European allies will have made the Nato connection seem less desirable in the eyes of the American public.

Critics of US action have stressed one theme: that the US cannot hope to defeat terrorism by force. This is puzzling. Terrorists resort to force to achieve their aims. If a military force greater than that wielded by terrorists is brought to bear on them, they will be destroyed or neutralized.

It can, of course, be argued that the force brought to bear in America's attack was both insufficient and of the wrong kind. This is an argument for applying greater force, and applying it with more skill and better judgement.

assertion that force cannot defeat terrorism. The warning is dangerous because it does not come to terms with a world made up of sovereign states which recognize no superior, and where the final arbiter must be force or its threat.

Another argument frequently heard is that "moderate" Arab states find the American move against Libya embarrassing. It forces them to declare solidarity with Gaddafi, for fear that their regimes might be endangered.

Proponents of these arguments often affect a tone of weary superiority. This is most observable when Libyan actions are

explained as stemming from Israeli intransigence and US inability or unwillingness to press for change. It is, however, far from clear that a settlement of the Arab-Israeli question is possible or if it were, that anyone knows what it might be.

Even if the Arab-Israeli conflict were to be settled, peace and quiet in the Middle East, other ferocious conflicts could easily break out. It is also a mistake to think that the US has a clear duty and a pressing interest to exert itself in the cause of Arab-Israeli peace.

The critics of US action have to assume one of two things - that the US is a superpower or that it is merely a very rich and powerful state. If it is a superpower, the status implies a crucial role in the defence of its Western allies.

And if the US is simply a powerful state, then it cannot be denied the right to resort to force when its interests require - a right enjoyed by every single state known to history.

The author is professor of politics at London University.

An outrage to these children

Anne Sofer

A "bloody public spending round" has been forecast for this autumn by The Economist, which usually has a fair sense of the government's intentions.

There is something puzzling about the Conservative performance on all of this. For a party that promotes an image of managerial competence and business efficiency, it has spectacularly failed to convince the voters that there is any way of running services more efficiently.

As far as education is concerned, the government has blamed the local authorities. Management, it claims, is out of its hands. But in the National Health Service there can be no such excuse.

And yet the decisions that these administrators actually make seem sometimes to be deliberately intended to grind a steel-capped heel into the most vulnerable parts of society.

My second reaction was to reflect on the paucity of the saving in relation to the outrage of what is proposed. To force the return to a doubtful attitude to psychiatric problems, with the schizoid, the retarded and the neurotic all in the same ward - and, what's more, all of them children - and such a horror perpetrated merely to save the cost of some senior civil servants does seem to be getting things out of proportion.

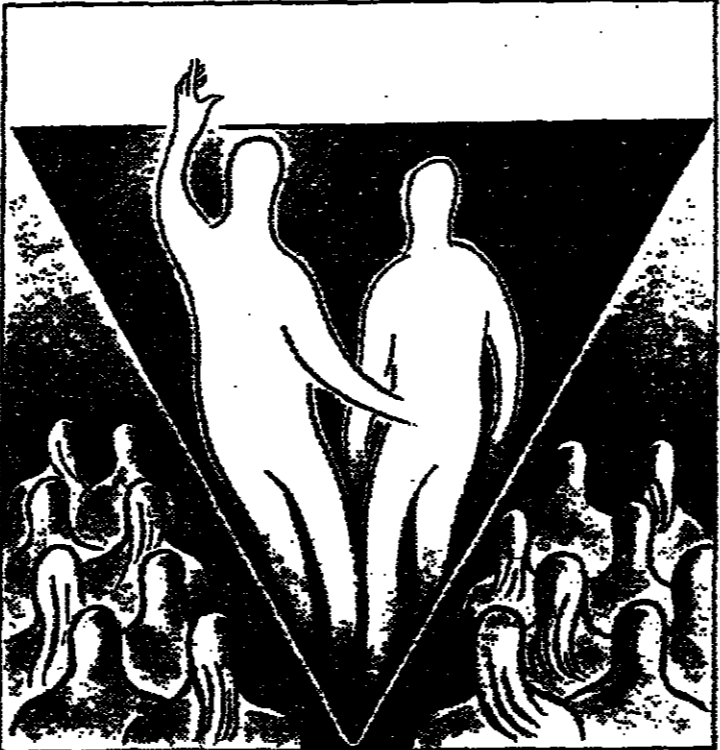
But my final reaction is to return to where I began. How is it that the Conservative government allows its agents to make such inhuman public proposals? Is it sheer incompetence? Or are there other ways of saving money?

Since the war, a different attitude of care, obligation, concern has been the most marked development of "Christian" feelings in a secular age. To fall back from that advance is a frightening retreat.

The author is a member of the SDP national committee.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Why gays must not create a new ghetto



likely to have some 1,500 sexual contacts in a lifetime; the research took account of the American institution of the "bath house", which is a euphemism for a place in which male homosexuals gather in substantial numbers to indulge in repeated single and multiple sexual encounters.

That, I must say, is an approach considerably more honest than the one adopted by Britain's chief medical officers of health in their statement reproduced in the current government information campaign on the subject of Aids.

Perhaps we should not think in terms of "homosexuals" at all, much less of a "homosexual community". That, I recognize, is easy for a heterosexual to say; those who still face derision and rejection for the accident of their nature, and who are now as a group more at risk from a horrible and lingering death than heterosexuals, can be pardoned for their impatience and anger.

The windiest militant trash. Important persons show. Is not so crude as our wish. Or at the very least: For the error bred in the bone. Of each woman and each man. Craves what it cannot have.

moreover... Miles Kington

Titles in a plain brown wrapper

Those of my older readers who remember the Westland affair (for younger readers it was much like Guinness Distillers playing with Michael Heseltine playing with Argyll) will recall one curious bit of the whole farrago...

Anyone active in public life must know exactly how he feels. One simply gets sick of being offered titles the whole time. Hardly a week passes without the phone ringing and some query or other insinuating that a knight-hood or peerage might sweeten my tone and half my relentless attack on the government (or opposition, depending on who's phoning).

This recently led to a slightly embarrassing situation when my secretary, who had made one of her rare appearances in the office, took the call instead of me and accepted a title for herself. She spent the whole afternoon insisting on being called Dame, until I could get back to the titles sorting office and have it rescinded.

But the calls have not stopped. They really come through on a Thursday afternoon, just as top civil servants are about to set off to the country for the weekend. A silky voice, with that educated taste of Roger's Thesaurus aftertaste, says something bland like: "I trust the requisite piece of nobility turned up in the first-class post, old boy?"

"Well, Gyles Brandreth, then," I say flippantly. "So does he," says the voice sadly.

I was stunned to hear that Gyles Brandreth had been offered a knighthood, but it only goes to show. The other day I rang a certain ministry, which I had

better not name, to hear this recorded message: "The ministry is closed for the weekend. I am afraid, and will be reopening myself on Monday. If you have rung about a title, please give the appropriate donation to the party of your choice, leaving your name, address and the title you are aiming at."

The thing is that it costs the government nothing to give a title and it gives the recipient's wife enormous pleasure, as she can now happily divorce him and still keep the ladyship. What it does for the recipient I am not sure, except perhaps get priority bookings in restaurants.

I have to report, however, a sinister development. The other day that silky voice, the one that had been through three public schools, rang me up with a threat. "You've got on with this destructive and frivolous journalism," he said. "You shall be forced to give me an honour."

"Have you got it the wrong way round?" I said.

"Not at all," came the dry-cleaned voice. "We are now issuing knight-hoods as a way of bringing people down. Think of Freddie Laker. We made him Sir Freddie, and he went out of business. Think of Clive Sinclair. He was fine until we made him Sir Clive, then it was disaster all the way. Think of..."

"OK, OK," I said, sweating. "I get the idea. What do you want me to do?"

"Well, for a start, no attacks on the honourous business, or else it's a knight-hood for you."

The Nordic spring of discontent

Oslo There is trouble in paradise. Scandinavia has long been a byword among its European neighbours for the anodyne (albeit affluent) brand of social efficiency created when enlightened bureaucrats have their way. But now it is tied up in knots.

Not only is the Nordic spring later than usual this year, it has already cost the region a Viking's ransom in a series of industrial conflicts that threaten to tumble well into the summer.

Norway is just beginning to surface from a week of industrial chaos, its worst labour dispute in 53 years, during which about 120,000 people, more than a tenth of the employed population, were locked out of their jobs in five industries. Norwegian oil and gas production in the North Sea was shut down for almost three weeks and the unrest spread at one point to the British sector, cutting supplies of natural gas to Britain by about 40 per cent.

In Finland, where the last strike of any importance was recorded in 1971, a quarter of a million blue-collar workers walked out for three days last month in the worst such action in 30 years. No sooner had they returned than 15,000 public-service workers called an indefinite strike that has all but halted rail and air traffic as it has spread throughout the country, involving more than 50,000 people.

Even in Iceland, where a curious strategy of mass resignations has evolved in response to strict anti-strike legislation, a two-week technical dispute all but blanked out television screens and cut some remote telephone services. Half the nation's police force has threatened to resign from July 1, provoking a public reaction midway between hilarity and apprehension.

Only Denmark and Sweden have so far been spared the worst, but the peace that prevails is an uneasy one. Denmark last year suffered a series of short strikes involving about 100,000 workers. The government imposed a two-year 2 per cent agreement. Sweden

pulled back only this month from a dispute that would have put more than 300,000 people out of work.

Neither country is looking forward to next year, when the truth of the "last gasp" theory of Scandinavian industrial relations will be put to yet another test.

The natives themselves, while undeniably restless, dispute this outsider's view with some vehemence. The Norwegians, for example, have a saying that translates easily across the various Nordic borders: "We are always broke but never poor." The key words are "equal" and "never". Despite the relatively recent accession to power of right-of-centre coalition governments in Norway, Denmark and Iceland, and the

undeniable example set to their Nordic neighbours by new fiscal brooms, the approach to the social-democratic welfare state of these conservative administrations is very different from that of, say, the British Conservatives.

It is the difference between fine-tuning (or at worst ill-considered tinkering) and wholesale demolition. Accordingly, what the British see as industrial chaos and thinly disguised class warfare is described here as "increasing instability in the labour market".

Sven Arnsrup, Nordic Council labour consultant, sees no threat whatever to Scandinavian social democracy, collective bargaining traditions, consensus or anything else. "The Nordic governments are trying to strengthen their ability to compete in the world market by keeping inflation and prices down," he says mildly. "It's easier to lower the price than to improve the quality of the goods."

"Nobody wishes to change social democracy in Scandinavia. Not even the Conservatives."

Tony Samstag

Handwritten note: "لقد في الجدل"



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9DD Telephone: 01-481 4100

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ON THIS DAY

APRIL 28 1987

In the history of the Spanish Civil War the bombing of Guernica by the German Air Force... has seminal significance. Over 1,600 people were killed and hundreds injured. Condemnation of this opinion is universal.

THE TRAGEDY OF GUERNICA TOWN DESTROYED IN AIR ATTACK

From Our Special Correspondent In the history of the Spanish Civil War the bombing of Guernica by the German Air Force...

CHURCH BELL ALARM In the form of its execution and the scale of the destruction it wrought...

Five minutes later a single German bomber appeared overhead and dropped six heavy bombs, apparently aiming for the station.

RHYTHM OF DEATH It is impossible to state yet the number of victims. In the Bilbao Press this morning they were reported as 'fortunately small'...

Heritage fire risk From the Chairman of the British Automatic Sprinkler Association Sir. For years past this association has made continuous representation to the Department of the Environment...

Busy old bees

From the Chairman of the British Beekeepers' Association Sir. Dr Hallam (April 23) drew attention to some important benefits of bee products...

Scholarships for royal birthday From Mr. A. Christodoulou and Mr. P. B. Hetherington Sir. Professor Alec Ross (April 22) proposes, to celebrate her Majesty's 60th birthday...

Balance of power From Lady Grimond Sir. Few will disagree with Sir Reginald Hibbert (April 19) when he urges Europeans to get their act together...

A lawyer's worth From Mr. David J. Chinery Sir. Whilst I have every sympathy with my colleague, Mr. Bruno Marmorstein (April 22)...

Cricket on TV From Mr. E. H. Vale Sir. In his review of the state of county cricket (April 22) written no doubt on a wet, cold day...

The chapel trail From Mr. Christopher Stell Sir. Mrs. Mason (April 12) need not travel as far as North Wales to satisfy her interest in chapels...

Loss of Eurydice From Mr. T. R. Lawrence Sir. I, too, was intrigued by your "On this day" column in which you reprinted the report of March 25, 1878...

Way of Wren From the Dean of Lincoln Sir. Has the Secretary to the Georgian Group (April 19) never seen the north walk of Lincoln's medieval cloister...

Village schools under threat

From Mr. C. J. Bunyan Sir. When Parliament gave the nod to the Education (School Premises) Regulations on July 10, 1981, did they realise that...

This discriminatory clause means that children who attend a school with 31 pupils (as my children do) will require 4,058 square metres each, whereas children at a school with 10 times as many pupils will only require 405.8 square metres each...

There will be more doubt whether Sir Reginald is right in suggesting that European reactions to President Reagan's bombardment of Libya reflect their relative lack of power rather than their different perceptions of how to deal with terrorism.

Grazing policy From Mrs Winifred Dixon Sir. In their pardonable enthusiasm for keeping ancient monuments looking tidy by leasing the sites out for commercial grazing...

For further developments in this area we await plans also touched on in the Budget: on new tax advantages for profit-sharing. The Chancellor should be urged to introduce these on a far more radical scale than the trickle of incentives offered through PEPs...

These machines actually knock the ripe grain from the standing corn, which is threshed by a drum and bagged. However, the by-product (or the main product if there is a poor crop of Norfolk-reed) is the standing straw, which can be harvested with a conventional binder and used for thatching without the need for either a separate threshing or combining process.

Stripping of grain From Mr C. E. Streather Sir. John Young's "Science Report" (March 24) about a "new" grain harvester and the subsequent letters (April 12) about the long history of this method of harvesting interested me...

Until Wednesday last week the life of every black man and woman in South Africa was governed by its passbook. It decreed where he could live, work and die. During the last 40 years failure to carry or possess it sent an estimated 10 million black South Africans to jail.

Those who have been long innured to Pretoria's habit of promising more and delivering less, have reacted to the decision with their customary scepticism. But a list of the influx control laws to be abolished indicates no fresh, if covert, plan to restrict black freedom of movement.

A NATION OF SHAREHOLDERS

The Treasury's just-published poll on share ownership, which suggests it has spread to some 14 per cent of adults, has been received with a certain amount of scepticism. This was to be expected. With this poll, the Treasury's estimate of the number of individual shareholders has dramatically doubled. At six million, it is far higher than the Stock Exchange's estimates.

For some of the purposes desired by Mrs Thatcher, under the motto 'popular capitalism', it matters not at all which route to the accumulation of personal financial assets is chosen. Independence of the state, liberation from the threat of dependence on social security in old age, will be secured by an increase in personal savings, whatever form it takes.

Victor wearing his national flag superior to that of the vanquished on the same hoist. In harbour only, when HM ships wear the Union flag on the jack staff at the stem, this too would be half-masted concurrently with the ensign aft.

The correct position is as described - at half-mast. The upper toggle or swivel, by which the flag is secured to the halyard, should be at the halfway mark between truck and heel.

A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE

But influx control - the Kafkasque maze of laws and regulations of which the passbook was the outward and most visible sign - did not work. It was hideously expensive, requiring the services of a vast and mostly hostile bureaucracy; it diverted the police from hunting criminals to chasing pass offenders...

And so finally, on Wednesday last week, declaring influx control to be hurtful, wasteful and a failure, President Botha effectively abolished the pass laws. His announcement was at once greeted with the criticism of "too little, too late".

industry - something that has been signally lacking in British society. Many differences in economic attitudes between Britain and the United States, underlying the more enterprising character of American society, can be traced to the greater spread of personal share ownership in America.

Managing a small share portfolio is an expensive as well as a hazardous business. Its new popularity, so hearteningly revealed by the Treasury survey, has undoubtedly received a stimulus from the coincidence of well-managed privatisation and a bull market. Attitudes to share-owning could easily turn sour if the bears came to dominate the stockmarket - an ever-present danger of which we had a gentle reminder last week.

Sign of grief From Commander R. D. Wall, RN. (Ret'd) Sir. In the maritime context there is nothing obscure or mysterious about either the custom of wearing flags at half-mast or how they should be worn.

These machines actually knock the ripe grain from the standing corn, which is threshed by a drum and bagged. However, the by-product (or the main product if there is a poor crop of Norfolk-reed) is the standing straw, which can be harvested with a conventional binder and used for thatching without the need for either a separate threshing or combining process.

Tragedy to children

13

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE April 26: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this evening attended the 40th Anniversary Reunion of the Burma Star Association at the Royal Albert Hall. Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received by the President, Royal Albert Hall (Sir Kirby Laine), the President of the Association (the Viscount Slim) and the Chairman (Air Vice-Marshal Sir Bernard Chacksfield).

Woman bishop would be a centre of disunity, says bishop

The Bishop of Chichester, Dr Eric Kemp, has endorsed the Bishop of London's warning that the Anglican Church may split over the issue of women's ordination. He says in his latest diocesan newsletter that "some form of separation would seem inevitable" if the American Episcopal Church persisted with its plan to consecrate a woman bishop.

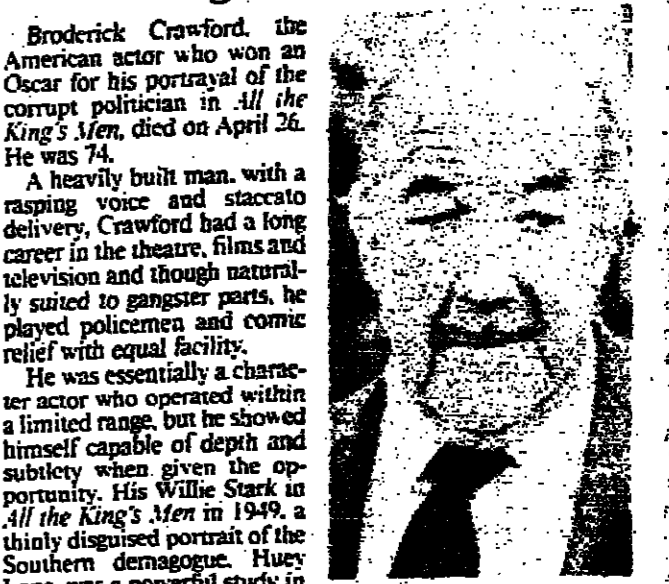
Clifford Longley

advocates of female ordination know that they now hold the high ground in the argument, and that it is their opponents who are on the defensive. From the perspective of the Movement for the Ordination of Women the only question left is "when?". They may be reluctant to plunge the church into a ruinous schism, but there is an evident sense of growing frustration in their ranks.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P. A. Fiza and Miss E. J. M. Rawling The engagement is announced between Paul, elder son of the late Mr Guyton Fiza and Mrs Rosemary Walker, of Ludham, Norfolk, and Emma, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Rawling, of Croydon.

OBITUARY BRODERICK CRAWFORD Oscar-winning actor of stage and screen



Broderick Crawford, the American actor who won an Oscar for his portrayal of the corrupt politician in All the King's Men, died on April 26. He was 74. A heavily built man, with a raspy voice and staccato diction, Crawford had a long career in the theatre, films and television and though naturally suited to gangster parts, he played policemen and comic relief with equal facility.

Birthdays today

Mr Ian Beech, 55; Mr Michael Roberts, 44; Barbara Carmichael, 61; Commandant Elizabeth Craig-McFey, 59; Miss Angela Enters, 79; Mrs Odette Hallows, 60; 74; Mr Justice Leonard, 60; Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, 62; Sir Hugh Lockhart-Mummery, 68; Baroness Lucas of Crudwell and Dingwall, 67; Mr Alistair Maclean, 64; Mr J.L. Thorn 61; Rear-Admiral R.S. Welby, 80; Mr Garfield Weston, 59; the Ven Sam Woodhouse, 74.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy Capt. R. M. P. Dutton to NA Gibraltar, June 9; A. K. Potter to NA Gibraltar, June 14; B. D. B. St. John to NA Gibraltar, June 14; B. D. B. St. John to NA Gibraltar, June 14; B. D. B. St. John to NA Gibraltar, June 14.

Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Peter Demetriadi was christened James Paul Christian Erskine at All Saints Church, Brandon, by the Rev Roger Dixon. The godparents are: Mr Giles de Margary, M. Olivier Bosdon (for whom Colonel M.A. Demetriadi stood proxy) and Miss Antonia Demetriadi.

Latest wills

Dr William Alway, of Blythburgh, Suffolk, the composer of film scores and symphony music, left estate valued at £135,625 net, to Mrs Edna Alway, of Wickham, Mr Edwin Jack, of Gosfield, Essex. £726,228

Births, Marriages, Deaths and In Memoriam

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM £4 a line + 15% VAT (minimum 3 lines) Announcements, authenticated by the name and permanent address of the sender, may be sent to: THE TIMES, PO BOX 484, Virginia Street, London E1. or telephoned (by telephone subscribers only) to: 01-81 3624.

Appointments

Latest appointments include: Judge John Arthur Dalziel Owen, QC, and Mr Denis Robert Maurice Henry, QC, to be judges of the High Court assigned to the Queen's Bench Division.

Service luncheon

The Royal Hampshire Regiment General Sir David Fraser, Colonel J. G. W. L. Lock on Excise with USN. Col. J. W. L. Lock on Excise with USN.

Marriages

Mr T. A. Mostyn and Miss E. Dax The marriage took place on Saturday, April 26, in Oxford of Mr Trevor Mostyn, 21, son of the late Sir Basil Mostyn, and of Mrs Anita Mostyn, and Miss Elizabeth Dax, daughter of Mr Peter Dax and Mrs Ann Dax. A family reception was held afterwards at the home of Sir Jeremy and Lady Mostyn in Lower Heyford.

Deaths

SOLLY-FLOOD On April 24th 1986, in Ottawa, to Jane nee Mesinger and Mr Solly Flood (Married) Peter Benjamin, 74. In Memoriam. TOBEY - On 21st April in Hannover, to Kate nee Chavasse and David, a son. Angus Edward.

Parliament this week

Today (22.30): British Shipbuilders' Borrowing Bill, second reading. Tomorrow (23.00): Finance Bill, second reading. Wednesday (23.00): Public Order Bill, second reading. Thursday (23.00): Debate on Open Market Operations. Friday (23.00): Children and Young Persons (Amendment) Bill, remaining laws.

Service dinners

HMS Hawkins Captain C.A. French, RN, presided at the reunion dinner of HMS Hawkins (1942-45 Commission) held at the Merchant Navy Hotel, Lancaster Gate, on Saturday. HMS St Vincent The annual reunion dinner of HMS St Vincent (1939-45) was held on Saturday at Eccleston Hall, SW1. Captain V. Lamb, RN, presided.

Service reception

The Lancashire Fusiliers The annual Gallipoli commemorative service was held in the Parish Church, Bury, yesterday. The salute at the march past was taken by Colonel J.K. Cartwright, Deputy Colonel (Lancashire) of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. A reception was held afterwards at the Castle Armoury, Bury. The guests included: Mr R.P.S. Pearson and Miss V. A. Cooper

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Prison officers to meet Hurd over dispute

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent
The Prison Officers' Association is having talks with Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, today in an attempt to defuse the jail crisis.

Kennedys show high-society muscle



Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and her son, John F. Kennedy, Jr. walking to the wedding, and the happy couple, Mr and Mrs Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Senator Edward Kennedy with his estranged wife, Joan; guests Andy Warhol and Grace Jones; and the bride's parents, Sargent and Eunice Shriver, clapping Roman Catholic church in Hyannis and was billed as private and intimate.

Briton shot dead in Jerusalem

Continued from page 1
The Jerusalem District police chief, Deputy Commander Chaim Albalade, said last night that no motive had been established for the attack.

Libya eases tension

Continued from page 1
He repeated the British Government's advice to them to leave Libya or, if they were unable to depart, at least to send their families away.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events
Royal engagements
The Queen visits the Bell Mead Kennels, Old Windsor, 11.

Nature notes
The noisier birds in the countryside at the moment are green woodpeckers, constantly answering each other with calls like ringing laughter.

Roads
London and the South East: A126 Construction of 3 Woodford relief road causes reduction in road width at junction 14 between Barnet Rd and London Rd.

Weather forecast
A shallow depression will move slowly N to the E of the coast of N England and Scotland. A further depression will move E from the Atlantic to be centred near to NW Scotland by midnight on Monday.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,031
A crossword puzzle grid with numbers in the squares.

The week's walks
Today: Political London - Government and Parliament, meet Eastminster Underground, 11:30, Victoria London; The City and East End revealed, meet Bank Underground, 2:30; An historic pub walk - Westminster, meet Westminster Underground, 7:30.

Anniversaries
Birth: Edward IV, reigned 1461-70, 1471-83 (1462); James Meare, first President of the USA, 1817-25, Westmoreland, County Virginia, 1758; Anthony Ashley Cooper, 1st Earl of Shaftesbury, political reformer, London, 1801; Frances Hodgson, painter, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1869.

High Tides
TODAY: AM HT PM HT
London Bridge 5:04 7:4 5:33 8:5
Aberdeen 4:36 6:0 5:10 6:1

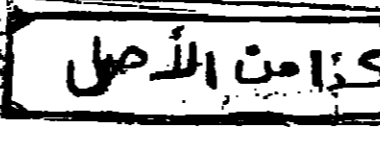
The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 17,030 will appear next Saturday
CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Portfolio Gold
11 M for any reason The Times Prices Page is not published on the weekday for that day.

Lighting-up time
Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, F
London: 11.9, 53.2

Around Britain
EAST COAST
Sunrise: 05.9 - 11.52 sunny
Sunset: 18.0 - 18.58

Abroad
MONDAY: a, cloud; d, drizzle; l, light fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.
Algeria C F Cologne C F
Algeria 19 65 Cologne 12 54



GILT-EDGED

Foreign investors may plump for mediums

Mr Nigel Lawson would probably vehemently deny it, but most commentators agree that attempted depreciations of sterling have been a feature of British policy on several occasions over the past four or five years.

Typically such attempts have ended in tears, with the fall in sterling eventually threatening to get out of hand, forcing a defensive rise in base rates.

Moreover, US short rates may not be about to rise, but bond markets around the world may have to face an uncomfortable period with short-term interest rates stuck at levels well above those which bond yields were moving to discount a few weeks ago.

In many respects, indeed, the United Kingdom gilt market may be one of the more vulnerable markets internationally. Gilt yields of 9 per cent or less are discounting further base rate cuts well below 10.5 per cent.

The Chancellor, however, seems to be pursuing an extremely cautious exchange rate policy - probably wisely - in view of oil price uncertainties. He is thus not likely to cut base rates again ahead of further cuts in short-term interest rates internationally.

Thus although the gilt market, like bond markets around the world, fully takes on board the implications of lower oil prices for inflation and hence real interest rates, further progress is going to be difficult unless more cuts in short-term rates around the world come into view.

Any reductions in rates abroad, unfortunately, are likely to be slow. Hopes were once high that the approaching Tokyo summit would provide an ideal forum for further co-ordinated interest rate cuts to be hammered out.

The Americans, however, seem to be trying to broaden the scope of the summit via the introduction of issues such as terrorism. This seems bound to take the emphasis away from economic issues.

The confidence of overseas investors. International confidence in the dollar is thus currently more important than ever. To cut the discount rate as the Fed did without German support in the run-up to the new bond auction programme thus seemed a distinctly high risk strategy.

The rate cut, rather than adding to the enthusiasm for US rates, simply resulted in a very sharp fall in the dollar. The dollar's effective exchange rate has thus fallen 6 per cent since the first week in April.

A rise in US short rates seems unthinkable given domestic political pressures. The abrupt fall in the dollar, spectacular even by the volatile standards in currency markets, is nevertheless going to provide a severe test for the new bond auctions. Few would thus rule out a further rise in US longer-term interest rates.

There will be progress eventually, since the current level of real interest rates is, absurd, given unemployment both here and elsewhere. As inflation falls away this summer, moreover, real rates will become even more absurd and the pressures to cut nominal rates can only mount.

But the process of getting base rates down in line with current gilt yields will probably take months rather than weeks. This sort of time gap will inevitably leave the market vulnerable to accidents - political or economic. Further, until we have actually seen some firm evidence of this year's low inflation rates feeding through to lower wage settlements, there are some fairly solid arguments for not chasing longer yields very much below current levels.

There would thus seem to be good reasons to avoid the risks inherent in the longer-dated end of the yield curve and for moving a little shorter. The attractions here are only compounded when we consider the great hope of every gilt broker in London.

If international (Japanese) investors are indeed growing nervous of the dollar it would seem perfectly plausible to suggest that they might diversify some of their funds into sterling, particularly given Mr Lawson's cautious approach to the currency. Any such switch can only benefit gilts.

International investors, however, have seldom found the longer end of the market particularly attractive and this seems unlikely to change, given the current shape of the yield curve. If international investment does come to play a role in the gilt market, and given the problems with US policy noted earlier, it is most likely to concentrate on the medium-dated issues.

George Hodgson, Chief Economist with Scrimgeour Vickers & Co, the stockbrokers.

APPOINTMENTS

Vickers: Dr Tony McCann joins the board from May 22. Richards, Hogg International: Mr Raymond Wong will be admitted into partnership from Thursday.

Mr Nigel Rogers will be admitted into partnership with Richards Hogg International Adjusters, also from Thursday. Bryant Holdings: Mr Stuart Roberts has become managing director of Bryant Construction Southern and Mr John Dennison finance director and secretary of Bryant Homes.

The Dorchester Hotel: Mr John Waring has been made director of personnel. Mr Jean Paul Foerster manager and Miss Fiona Lindsay public relations manager.

Blick International: Mr Andrew Caldwell has been made a non-executive director. Cameron Markby: Mr A McKnight, Mr J B Dunn, Miss E S Lovick, Mr N A Segal and Mr M J Paynter will become partners from Thursday.

Mr David Batchelor, Jardine Insurance Brokers, Hong Kong. Mr David Batchelor has been appointed chief executive. London International Group: Mr Douglas Baker has been appointed a non-executive director.

Barlow Lyde & Gilbert: Mr James Butler and Mr Stephen Mestyn-Williams have been made partners. Prestwich Holdings: Mr John Lawrie is now group financial director.

Securities and Investments Board: Mr Archibald Cook, Jr has been made a part-time director for the period to May 31. Union Carbide Corporation: Mr Robert Kennedy has been elected president and chief executive officer.

Richard Butler: Mr T D Pigott, Mr L G Rees, Mr T E Watts, Miss Lisa Minopria, Mr C H K Swindall, Mr J S Austin, Mr R C Nicholson, Mr E G Gray, Mr C A Brown and Mr J F Emmott become partners from Thursday.

Drexel Burnham Lambert Incorporated: Mr Sam Hunter is to join the company as senior vice president in charge of the equity trading departments. Glyndwr International: Mr Gareth Davies is to succeed Sir Leslie Fletcher as chairman at the end of the year.



Mr David Batchelor

USM REVIEW

Toy importer makes play for a role in services

The service companies on the Unlisted Securities Market may no longer generate the excitement in the City which prevailed two years ago, but they are proving a fertile hunting ground for entrepreneurs wanting to rapidly build up broadly-based communications groups rapidly.

The latest move came with Friday's announcement of a £5.1 million agreed bid for the accountancy tuition specialists, Chart Foulls Lynch, by Mr Philip Birch's (of Ward White fame) vehicle, Cowan de Groot.

Chart Foulls Lynch has enjoyed a short life as a public company. It came to the USM last November and is one of three quoted companies which provide full-time correspondence courses for accountancy and law students.

Unlike its competitors, Financial Training and BPP Holdings, Chart Foulls Lynch has a strong regional base with five colleges out of six located outside London.

The annual intake of trainees by accountants is continuing to rise and the growing emphasis on formal regulation in stockbroking offers the prospect of steady growth in this area.

The company has announced its 1985 preliminary figures, which showed a 30 per cent increase in pretax profits to £334,000.

Cowan de Groot is a mixed bag of toy importing and electrical wholesaling which began to look more interesting in January when Mr Birch took a 9.5 per cent stake.

The acquisition of Chart Foulls Lynch is the company's first step since the deal and marks the beginning of its development into the communications and services field.

Mr Birch sees education and training as a potential area of growth as state facilities come under increasing pressure, and Chart Foulls Lynch will provide the foundation stone of a new division specialising in that area.

Cowan de Groot is also interested in further diversification into publishing, advertising and consultancy recruitment.

In the meantime the basic business of Cowan de Groot has been progressing well after substantial reorganization, and figures for the year ending April 1986 are likely to show an advance in pretax profits to £1.1 million (versus £829,000).

On a pro forma basis for 1986-87, pretax profits for the combined group could reach £1.75 million, which leaves the shares on a prospective multiple of 13.5. With the prospect of further acquisitions this is reasonable.

New issues have dominated USM activity in the last few weeks. The lucky places in last week's offering in the architects, DY Davies, have been rewarded with an instant profit of 18 per cent because on the second day of dealings the company announced that it had won a contract to coordinate the multi-million pound extension to the Guildhall in the City of London. Brokers in the issue was Capel-Cure Myers.

The next offering from Capel-Cure Myers is Midlands-based DeKor, one of the largest manufacturers of brass and ranges of coordinated-linenie garments.

The company supplies leading retailers and mail order houses, and after floating intends to handle the supply of nightwear and swimwear.

The company made profits before tax in 1985 of £1.4 million and the shares are being placed on a multiple of 11.1 times.

Isabel Unsworth. The author is a member of the smaller companies unit at Phillips & Drew.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table with columns for Company, Price, Change, etc. listing various unlisted securities.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table showing Sterling Spot and Forward Rates for various currencies.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table showing Euro Money Deposits and Treasury Bills.

Equity & Law Another good year, for profits and new business

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Sir Douglas Wass, GCB, and the Report and Accounts for 1985

- * Total long term business profits allocated to the policyholders and shareholders were £72.5m compared with £60.8m for the preceding year.
* A final dividend for 1985 of 5.7p per share is being recommended. This makes a total for the year of 6.7p, an increase of 19% on the previous year.
* New annual premiums rose by 22%, substantially more than both the rate of increase in the life assurance market as a whole and the rate of inflation.
* We have continued to devote much time and energy to product innovation and development.
* The Society has the financial strength to take advantage of the opportunities likely to arise and the quality of staff at all levels.

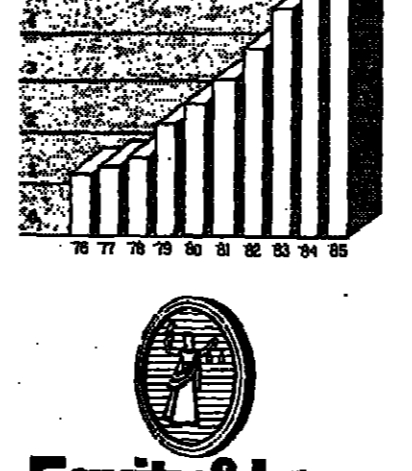
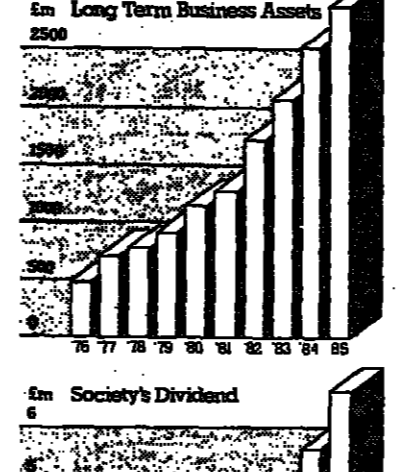
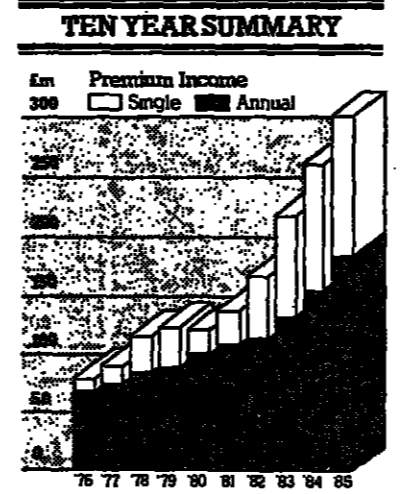


Table with columns for 1985, 1984, and Increase, listing financial highlights.

Copies of the Report and Accounts incorporating the Chairman's Statement and a full Review of 1985 may be obtained from: The Secretary, Equity & Law Life Assurance Society plc, Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP13 5AL.

Charitable Chancellor?

In this year's budget the Chancellor has provided new opportunities for companies, and their staff, to support charities of their choice, at home and overseas. Through Oxfam your company, or employees, can help some of the third world's poorest people to build a better future for themselves.

To find out how your company can effectively meet its social responsibility write for Oxfam's briefing pack, to: Sam Clarke, Director of Fundraising, Oxfam, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ.

Oxfam works with poor people in their struggle against hunger, disease, exploitation and poverty in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East through relief, development, research and public education.



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COMPANY NEWS

BIO-ISOLATES (HOLDINGS): Results for 1985, compared with the previous 15 months. No dividend. Turnover £2.6 million (£1.5 million). Pretax loss £400,000 (£256,000). Tax nil (nil). Extraordinary debt £122,000 (nil).
GLASGOW STOCK EXCHANGE: Sun Life Assurance has purchased 1.75 million ordinary shares, taking its interest to 8.45 million shares (25.41 per cent).

Rank looks for new direction after Granada bid blow

By Cliff Feltham
The Rank Organisation's dream of creating a multi-million pound leisure empire out of a merger with Granada has ended as no more than a footnote in the City's history books.
But the failure - or blunder, as some experts still believe - has posed the question for Mr Michael Gifford, chief executive and driving force at Rank, where now?
The first signs of a crack in the Rank share price appeared this week after a downgrading of profit forecasts by the stockbroker, de Zoete and Bevan.



Michael Gifford: keen to expand holiday business

US bank takes over two brokers

By Richard Lander
The City's latest financial marriage to result from relationships forged over the last four years ahead of October's big bang takes place today, with the United States bank, Chase Manhattan, coming to the altar with two partners in the shape of the stockbrokers Simon and Coates and Laurie Milbank.
Chase is increasing its stake in the two brokers from a minority to 100 per cent and is combining both with its London-based Eurobond and corporate finance division to form a new company to be called Chase Manhattan Securities.

AnalYSIS
All this and taxmen too beset oil firms

The impact of low oil prices on the balance sheet will vary throughout the industry, depending on the carrying value of these assets.
The assets which will be hit hardest in a revaluation will be the most recently developed, and therefore the most expensive, fields, and fields in production which were purchased rather than developed by the company in question.
Forties and Claymore units sold by BP and Occidental are therefore likely to suffer as they were purchased at pretax values when the oil price was nearer \$30.

When is a monopoly not a monopoly?

By Michael Prest, Financial Correspondent
The phoney war which has so far characterized Hillsdown Holding's £430 million bid for S&W Berisford, whose price is British Sugar Corporation, must end soon. BSC's arch-rival, Tate & Lyle, or another company will join the fray with a counter-bid.
But whatever course the battle takes, its outcome is likely to be decided, or at least heavily influenced, by Whitehall. And an important part of the regulators' deliberations will be the consequences for Britain's national sugar policy of a successful bid.
BSC is more than just a company. It is, in a sense, a whole industry. The corporation has a monopoly in Britain of beet sugar refining and controls slightly more than half of the 2.2 million tonnes of sugar refined each year in this country.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table with columns: Capitalisation, Company, Price, Dividend, Gross Yield, Dividend Yield, P/E. Lists various investment trusts like Anglo-Saxon, City of London, etc.

FREE PRIZE DRAW
Will you turn £500 of penny shares into £1,000 in just six weeks?

Advertisement for Stockmarket Confidential featuring a free prize draw, expert advice, and a free trial order for the stock market guide.

Institute fears 'blacklist' of directors

By Lawrence Lever
Provisions relating to the disqualification and personal liability of company directors come into force today.
Coming as part of the Insolvency Act 1985, they have sparked off claims from the Institute of Directors that they will lead to the Department of Trade and Industry blacklisting directors of insolvent companies.
The Act provides for disqualification of directors from holding office on the grounds that they are unfit to be involved in the management of a company.

BASE LENDING RATES
ABN 10.50%
Adam & Company 10.50%
BCCI 10.50%
Cibank Savings 10.75%
Consolidated Group 11.00%
Commercial Trust 10.50%
Co-operative Bank 10.50%
C. Howe & Co 10.50%
Lloyds Bank 10.50%
Nat Westminster 10.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland 10.50%
TSB 10.50%
Cibank NA 10.50%

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization and week's change

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted) ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end May 9. Contango day May 12. Settlement day May 19. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E. Lists various companies like Trent, Smeethy, Rockware, Cambridge Elec, Greys Gross, etc.

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8.00 on Saturday's newspaper.

Table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock out of 100p. Stock Price Change in %

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

UNDATED

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

INDEX-LINKED

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

BREWERIES

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

CINEMAS AND TV

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

DRAPERY AND STORES

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

ELECTRICALS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

FINANCE AND LAND

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

FOODS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

HOTELS AND CATERERS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

L-R

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

S-Z

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'S

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

PROPERTY

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

SHIPPING

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

SHOES AND LEATHER

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

TEXTILES

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

TOBACCO

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

INSURANCE

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

LEISURE

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

MINING

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

OIL

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, High, Low, Dividend, Yield, P/E

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Buffet
-Sells

APRIL 28 1986

Computer clones the key to profits

Companies that develop and distribute computer software have, by and large, escaped the worst effects of the slowdown in the growth of computer sales. While even IBM has been hard-pressed to maintain sales and profits at the same level as last year, leading software companies and firms, such as Lotus and Microsoft, have reported strong increases for the first quarter of this year.

The large companies do on their products and sell it for a quarter of the cost? There is a risk of course — make your clone too close to the original and you could find yourself in court accused of infringing copyrights.

clone at say £100 sells largely to small businesses and serious computer users at home who do not have the £300 to £400 to spend on a brand leader, while medium and large companies still tend to favour the established leaders with their emphasis on providing a good after-sales service — though this is likely to change as the clones gain more respectability.

companies are wary of admitting their products can be sold so cheaply for fear it might backfire with their high profit customers.

The basic concept of many programs can obviously not be patented by individual firms so they are left with an undefined area in the middle

There are now several companies that have realized the profit margins on the successful brands of basic business software, such as financial spreadsheets and databases, are huge.

ware firms might have to get used to providing their products at a third, or even a quarter, of their current prices.

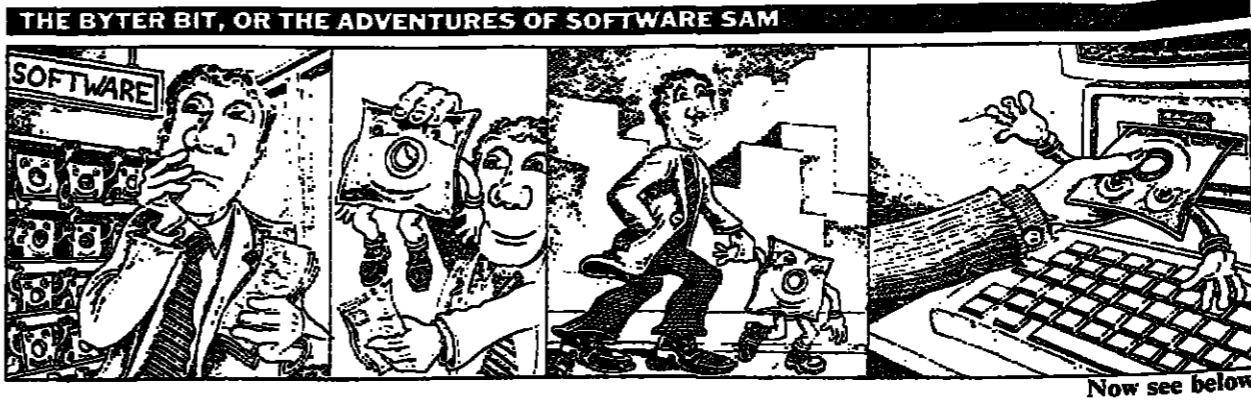
Some companies have produced cut-down versions of their products at anything from £50 to £100 specifically for the Amstrad. But it is clear that these programs are so close to their more expensive cousins that the price difference bears no relation to production costs while other

the most fashionable answer now is site licensing — a sort of half-way house where companies pay for the right to distribute a particular product around their organization as they see fit.

Software companies in the personal computer field are now faced with whether to concentrate on producing cheaper software or, through the use of huge advertising campaigns, attempt the increasingly difficult task of trying to brand their products as distinctive enough to command a premium price.

The various factors that are pushing towards paying for software at a price based on what it costs to develop and duplicate will mean some software firms becoming a little leaner to cope with conventional profit margins.

Matthew May



And lo, the wimp was born

First there was the chip. And the chip prospered among the initiated. They came to love its flickering green screen, they learnt its languages and swapped anecdotes about the dialects of CPM and MOS-DOS late into the night.

WIMPs. In fact the idea first originated in the Palo Alto, California laboratories of Rank Xerox, but it was the Lisa which turned it into a marketable product.

And then there were windows. These gave the screen the appearance of a piece of paper which could be stretched or increased in size at will.

against one software manufacturer to defend its copyright over the idea. And it won.

Change of heart on the part of managing directors

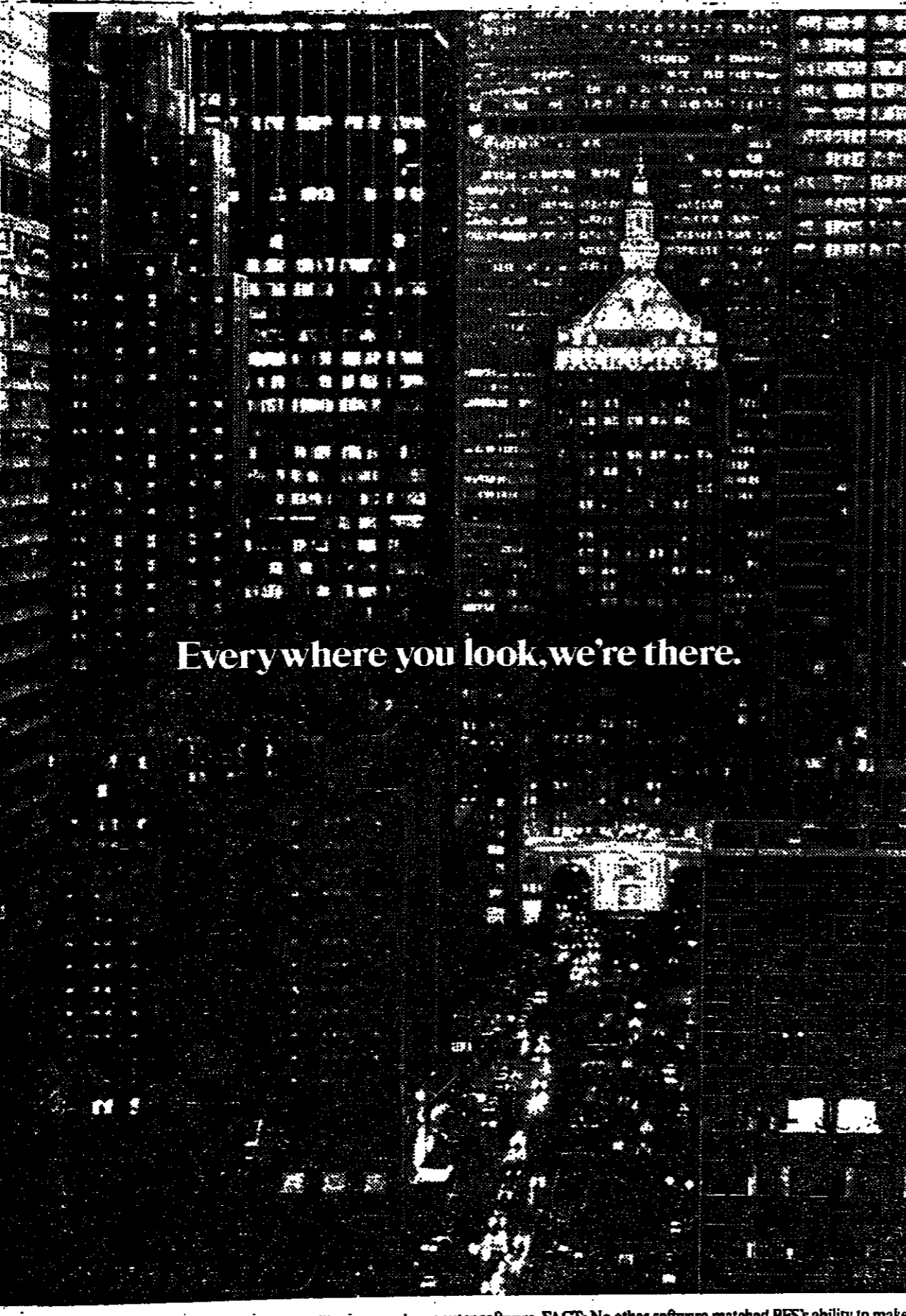
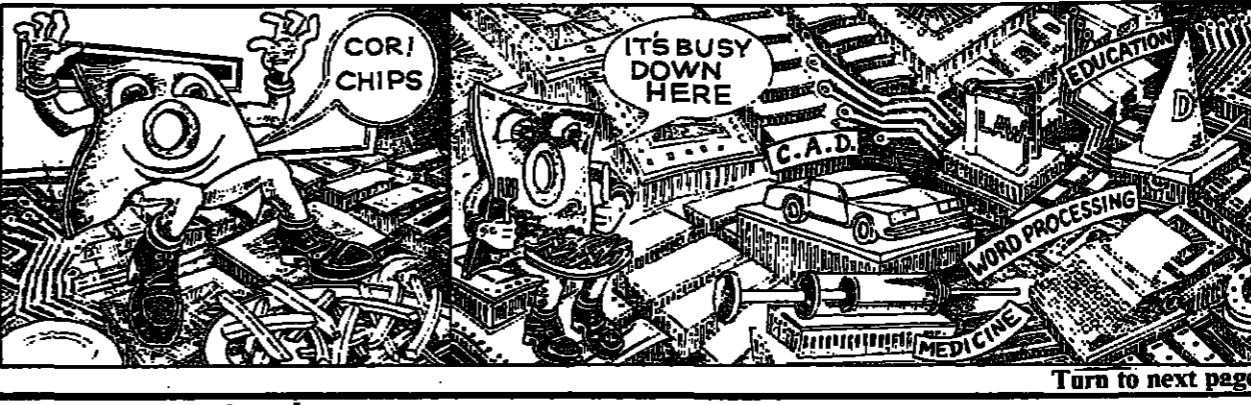
So there was a change of heart on the part of the managing directors. And they turned to their research departments where, in the fullness of time, were born three creatures of the new computing age: the Window, the Icon, the Mouse and the Picture.

Of course, it was inevitable that every other computer company which had not thought of WIMPs would decay them as the daftest idea the business had ever produced.

Continued on next page

Windows gave users a different picture

one must first establish that there are wimps and wimps. The Mac, and the Atari 520ST and Commodore Amiga which followed, are the real thing.



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Please send me the latest details on MICRO-FINSTAT.
I have saved my registration on your local MICRO-FINSTAT workshop.

Name _____
Company _____
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Vertical text on the right margin: /s re its yn he es, to ss ce to of in S, d, or th is te e, I, re ig le y le n, h ll le x, e d e e y d s n e, e e g r t e n n d d r a f, l i g e l t h a t v e n t t o l i n g i s i n, n o g u o t t o r s f a l l, n y s t h e f a r x, i f U K r i a l o p i g n, v e n t t h e u n c e l a y, t h e l a y.

The age of the wimp is nigh

From previous page
 world as an alphabet of low resolution green dots, usually grouped together as letters. Not much good for dealing with a complex graphics environment. IBM and compatibles require a graphics card and a high-resolution monitor just to be able to deal with wimps - then someone has to write the software.

This does not mean that the end results are inferior to those on machines designed for the job - just that they take a little longer to arrive, and in some cases never quite make it at all.

Is the effort really worthwhile? Yes, with a few reservations. A computer running a visual operating system and graphics which matches it can save hours of training time, and probably make computers usable to people who would otherwise find them baffling.

One example of this ease of use will suffice. Imagine copying a file called letters from

same old, unfriendly program it always was.

That kind of set-up may not be worthwhile. Always remember that wimps are slower to use than basic operating systems. You may find yourself slowing everything up for purely cosmetic purposes.

Good picture-based software is a joy to use and helps make a computer more transparent to the novice. But not everything is suited to the wimps environment. When Apple came out with its new Mac Plus it replaced a couple of the key icons with simple old word and the keyboard also sprouted cursor keys for those moments - principally in word processing - when the mouse is not the best way to get around the screen.

In the long run, it is a matter of personal choice. People who have been using computers for some years and taken the time to learn their awkward little ways may get little or nothing out of a system which describes a communications program as a picture of a telephone.

Newcomers may feel differently, particularly when they discover some of the clever little add-on programs around. The Mac comes with a set of desk accessories which can be expanded to hold notes, contacts lists, a calendar and even a phone book which, with the right equipment, will dial private voice calls for you. The IBM has a splendid program called Sidekick that does much the same thing.

They may not mean an awful lot to serious computer programmers, but to the average user they might just represent what personal computers ought to be about - and sell a lot of machines.

David Hewson

All is not what it seems to be

one disc to another. Under standard MS-DOS this would involve typing the line COPY A:LETTERS B:. An errant space in the phrasing would throw the whole operation. The wimps user just positions his cursor over the relevant file and drags it onto the icon representing his new disc. Nothing more.

But... all wimps are not what they appear to be. A number of those used on IBM machines are shop windows only. They will put a pretty gloss on the computer and let you represent Wordstar, for example, as a typewriter. But once you have worked your way through the wimps, the software is the

Everything in a memory aimed at speed

Memory is the go-faster stripe of the computer business. Manufacturers boast of the size of their machine's RAM (Random Access Memory) in advertisements, as if the number of K a machine possessed were some guarantee that it will run faster and perform more efficiently than the opposition. Would that it were so...

little more on something more modern.

RAM is the memory of the computer which is available for temporarily running programs and storing data. The larger it is, the more electronic junks software can perform on your machine.

Equally, if your software is already a puny weakling showing its age, it will still be puffing and panting to do the job, even if you give it a shiny new gym to work out in.

People with older software can get something out of bigger memory by buying a program known as a RAM disc or RAM cache. This fools the computer into thinking that part of its expanded memory is actually a new disc drive.

Then memory prices started to tumble and the average RAM size of a basic business micro rose to 256K. Most serious micros will now start off with at least 512K, and by the end of the year that will have doubled to one megabyte.

But does the race for bigger memory have any practical advantages for the ordinary user?

In the long run, the answer is unquestionably yes. Micros which have several megabyte of RAM will be able to perform functions far beyond the capabilities of the best of today's machines. At the moment, however, you must choose your software carefully or configure your system to your own needs if you want to make 512K or one megabyte of memory worthwhile.

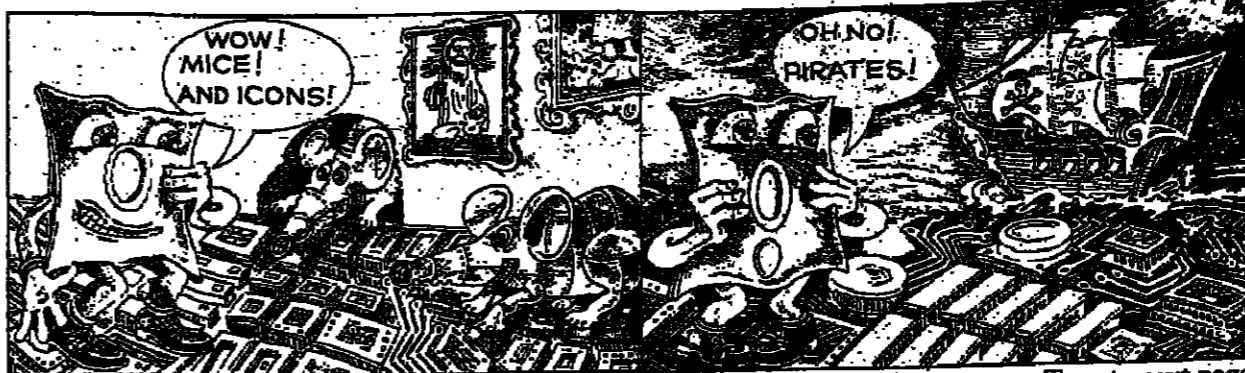
Much of the software sold is still designed for smaller memory machines and offers

RAM discs call for a modicum of care to avoid painful lock up

links with the electronic dictionaries and thesauruses, but the process of using them was time consuming. Usually one wrote an article, closed the file and then inserted a new disc which ran it against the dictionary.

After five minutes or so, any words which the dictionary did not recognise were marked in the text so that the writer could return to the file to check them.

With RAM, spell-checking is faster and more practical. The latest word processors, such as Word Perfect and NewWord3, come with dictionaries as before, but they are



Turn to next page

many operations on existing machines, and make an enormous difference to computers such as the Apple Macintosh which are slow to access floppy disc drives. But larger memory really comes into its own when it runs software which is specifically designed for it, and in the last six months a number of programs have appeared on the market which point the way ahead for the personal micro.

Some of the most interesting developments are in word processing.

Before expanded memory came along, word processing programs often possessed

a computer to do several things at once.

This is hard for most micros. A number can, for instance, write a letter while despatching a telex; but the more tasks which are run concurrently the slower each becomes. With a greatly increased RAM and new faster CPUs, one small desktop micro should be able to carry out several tasks in background and, at the same time, communicate with other computers in the same office network while still functioning at full speed as a conventional desktop computer.

This revolutionary pro-

would mean that a whole library of specialist cuttings, processed to individual requirements, would be available with one keystroke.

Large memories could also encompass graphics images to rival anything from an art studio of today, and even incorporate photographs as part of an overall page plan.

Architects using computer-aided design tools would be able to reproduce plans which are far more sophisticated than existing line techniques.

An American writer, Cary Lu, whose book, *The Apple Macintosh Book* (Microsoft Press, £15.95), is one of the most superlative computer publications of recent years, predicted two years ago that 10 to 50 megabytes would be the standard RAM for desktop computers by the end of the decade.

The launch of the next Apple computer, codenamed *Jonathan*, later this year will probably show that he was being a little conservative in his estimates: a number of observers feel it will break the 10 megabyte barrier this year, and point to the fact that conversions which take the Macintosh up to four megabytes are already on sale.

The writing is on the wall: the hardware is racing ahead. Presumably, the software will get there in the end.

Now is the time to take advantage of an expanded memory

pect, naturally, horrifies the manufacturers of large and expensive mainframe computer systems. They have made a living by persuading people that computer terminals should be relatively stupid creatures which simply communicate with an all-powerful central mainframe computer, on the terms it dictates.

One possible future for the office computer blessed with a huge (by today's standards) RAM is that of individual workstations linked, but not tied, to a central network.

In a newspaper office this

DH

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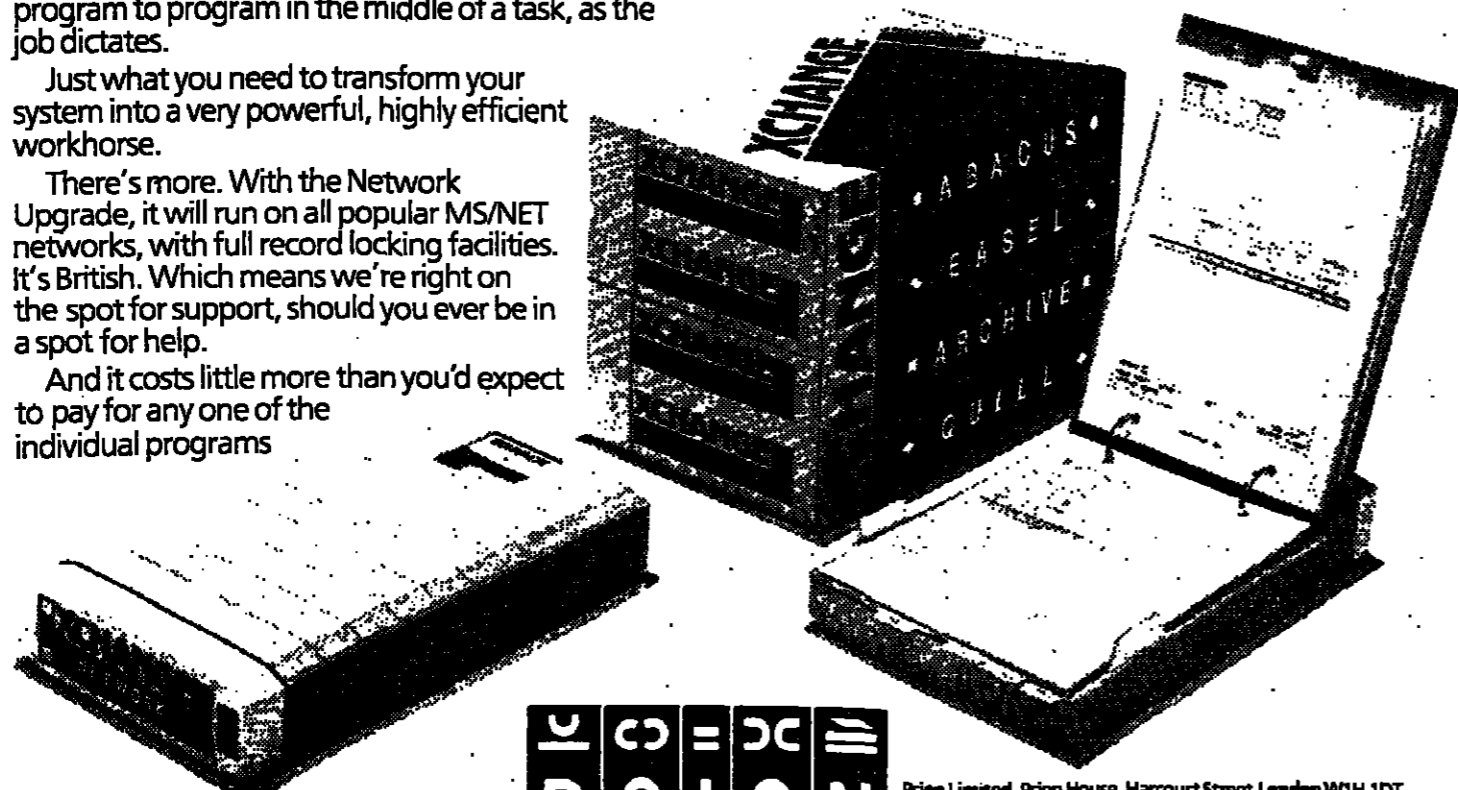
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How to avoid being blinded by choice

The prospective computer user is faced with a veritable minefield when trying to choose from the wide range of available software. And this, according to conventional wisdom, is where the search should begin rather than with the hardware.

A mistake, detected at an early stage, will probably only result in the loss of the money actually expended. If, on the other hand, the unsuitability is not recognized until a much later stage, the amount of time and money which has to be "written-off" will be quite large. In some extreme cases, the effect on a business can be disastrous.

Prior to making any important purchasing decision it is normal to define the need. This enables one to prepare a specification against which the products in the marketplace can be compared and a shortlist made. A detailed evaluation of the products on this shortlist, together with potential vendors, would then be carried out.

How does one make that hard decision?

It is not buying a can of beans. If things go awry, one may find that one has bought a can of worms.

The cause of the problem is twofold. On the one hand, one is dealing with a very sophisticated product which, even in the hands of a sophisticated user, takes an appreciable amount of time to understand and learn. On the other hand, it is easy to be dazzled by the apparent brilliance of a system which has some quite major flaws - either inherently or when used in your particular application.

So how does one choose software? A medium to large sized company selecting packages of which many copies will be needed, is able to follow the approach described above - normally under the aegis of either the Data Processing or Management Information Services Department. In addition, it would have the option of either buying directly from the manufacturer or from a dealer. In either case it would be normal to assess the quality of the available support. After all, no one invests the appreciable sum of money that is needed for multiple copies of a software without taking sensible precautions. On the other hand, the small company or individual needing to buy just one copy is in rather a different situation.

With the cost of packages on average around £500, how much time or money can the prospective user realistically afford to spend on making the decision? Herein lies the conflict. In terms of the sum involved, not very much. On the other hand, in terms of the cost of a bad decision, he cannot afford to make an ill-considered choice.

This does not mean to say that there will only be one suitable program and all the

others will be useless. What it means is that for the task in hand: one or more may be perfect; others will be usable; but it is only in extreme cases that the wrong choice would be disastrous.

In these circumstances it is necessary to cast around for any available source - even from the bar at the golf club. This is not a frivolous suggestion. The comments of one's colleagues and associates will often be more relevant than those from a computer whiz-kid. His idea of what is simple to use would not be the same as that of the vast majority of business users. In addition, there are a number of user groups. Some of these are vertical such as the dBase Users' Group for users of the well-known database program from Ashton-Tate. Others are general such as the IBM PC Users' Group and there are those groups which meet locally to compare experiences.

So what should one be on the look out for? The requirements still need to be defined so that when looking at data sheets and talking to dealers one has some terms of reference. The choice of dealer is also important because, as one is often treading in strange waters, one will need to be able to call upon expertise when the need arises.

However, while one is looking for a competent dealer to provide support, especially when first getting the system working, it is unrealistic to expect any dealer to know every program on the market - let alone have expertise in more than one or two in each product category. He can really be interested in handling only a limited number and should he obtain a program to special order, is unlikely to know any more about it than can be read in the manual.

Knowledge is a valuable commodity and without it the dealer cannot provide the necessary support. First there is the need to correlate your (user) requirements with the specifications of the available packages; then the software needs to be installed on the hardware with which it will be used; staff must be trained and, finally, help will be needed to resolve problems as they arise.

From this it can be seen that a knowledgeable dealer can be a great help in selecting the right package for your job. However, as the ultimate decision must be yours, it is worthwhile checking to see if "sampler" discs have been prepared for the programs of your shortlist.

Ashton-Tate and Microsoft are among the companies whose dealers have them. One small British company Duncan Databases, which sells directly to end-users, provides a demonstration disc which includes a tutorial. They say that it will enable a user to actually create their own mini database, identical to the real thing but of limited capacity. Added to this, they say, they have expert advice at the other end of a telephone line.

Before getting seriously into this, many potential users might find a morning spent with the lankey "Crash course in keyboard skills" time well spent.

The availability of training courses may be an important factor in the adoption of a particular package. Many of the major companies now

Leading vendors take training seriously

provide computer-based training (CBT) courses with their programs with further courses amplifying CBT being offered for the majority of the popular packages.

Major vendors take training very seriously. For example, Microsoft appointed a "trainer-of-trainers" nearly two years ago to ensure that there will be properly qualified people available to provide training in the use of its packages. Similarly, the company has worked together with Pitman and the Institute of Word Processing to ensure that there is a method of certifying competence.

This final point is an important factor in the selection of software and shows that nothing should be overlooked. After all, if a package is adopted that is widely used, expenditures on training are far more likely to be well-invested.

Adrian J. Morant

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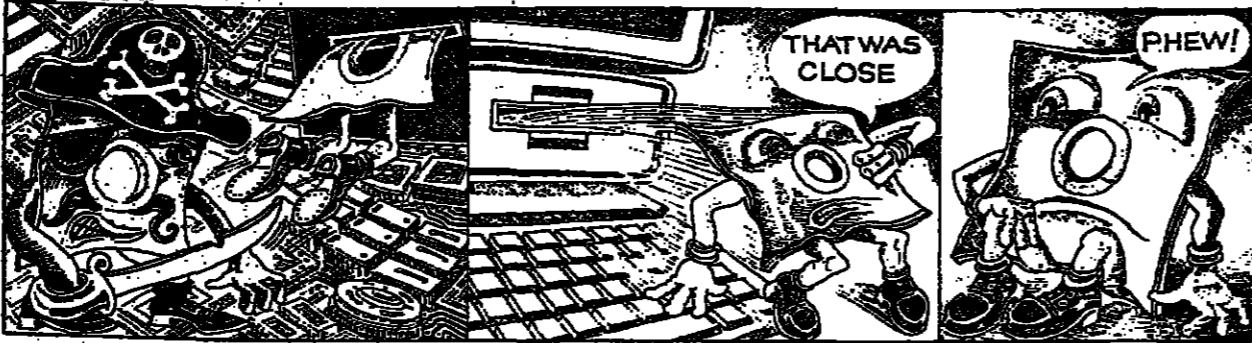
Computers may give a competitive edge, but information changes it into a commercial weapon. Demand for fast access to accurate commercial facts, combined with the boom in personal computers, has created an entire new industry: on-line database publishing, now growing at between 30 to 40 per cent a year.

Business and financial companies now have the widest choice of electronic material. But database suppliers are intent upon widening their services to attract customers with specialist interests, and perhaps eventually the general browser.

"The on-line host is the bookshop of the future. Surveys have shown that now 10 per cent of all people who buy a micro buy with the intention of getting access to on-line services," says Patrick Gibbins, deputy managing director of Pergamon-Infoline and chairman of the European Information Services Association, Eusidic.

Anyone who can connect their computer into a telephone line, using a modem or acoustic coupler, has an instant electronic library at their disposal, for the price of a telephone call plus a small surcharge or annual subscription. Most databases have keyword searching, so you pay only for what you choose to read.

Databases may be entered either directly, by dialling the host's telephone number, or



The bookshop of the future

indirectly via a gateway from another service.

Customers of an electronic messaging service such as Telecom Gold, for example, which now has 36,000 mailbox users, can opt for text retrieval from a growing number of Gold-hosted or third-party databases. One-stop shopping, as managing director Peter Bury calls it, comes for a small surcharge on top of Gold's connect time rates of 1p a minute (peak), and 3.5p (off-peak).

Telecom Gold has a mixture of internal and external material, some of which has been built up by closed user groups (private networks) hosted by Gold, then opened up for public use.

This has happened with Ashton Tate's Service Line (no charge) and Lotus Corporation's World of Lotus (5p a minute), both of which

offer technical updates on the two companies' packages and free software samples. Textnet translation services (50p a minute), and *Agra Europe Online* (56.2p a minute), a weekly magazine covering European agricultural news.

The first third-party information service specifically for public use through Gold was IDB Online, run by VNI Business Publications, which gives daily news of the computer industry for 56.2p a minute.

The first external gateway on Gold was to the Official Airline Guides Electronic Edition in Illinois (peak 56.5p, off-peak 38p a minute), holding flight schedules of more than 750 airlines and offering direct flight booking.

Datsolve's current price is £1 a minute for which users have access to material from newspapers such as the *Financial Times*, *The Guardian*, *Washington Post* and *The Economist*, plus news agencies including the Associated Press and BBC External Services. These two gateways are only the start, says Mr Bury.

Presitel, now with 65,000 users, 55 per cent of whom are in the business sector, preceded Gold as public information provider and now has 330,000 pages of data drawn from more than 1,200 sources.

A home subscription to Presitel costs £6.50 a quarter, £18 for business users, plus 6p a minute line charge during peak hours, with 98 per cent of UK calls charged at local rate.

The most popular items are MicroNet, a service for home computer users, CitiService, providing share prices, and Presitel Travel, containing holiday details. CitiService has many rivals, from Finstat,

run by Financial Times Business Information to the international news agency Reuters.

Brokers can choose from a wide range of services specialising in different aspects of the market, including Datasream, owned by Dunn & Bradstreet, for statistical analysis; Quotron for the US Dow Jones Index; Bridge Data for futures.

For background on individual companies, Extel cards are now online as the Extel Examiner database, and McCarthy cards as McCarthy Online, a service launched in February.

"The database is growing at 25 million characters a week and we now have files on 16,000 companies and more than 300 industrial subjects. Our emphasis is on full text information and on getting it up on the system within 72 hours of receiving it," says Anthony Garnett, managing

director of McCarthy Information in Warminster. The selection of publicly available databases in Britain is likely to widen considerably over the coming year.

One US supplier, Mead Data Central, is making a serious bid for UK subscribers after its takeover of Butterworth Telepublishing, opening up databases such as Nexis (news), Lexis (law), and US patents (also available from Pergamon-Infoline in London) over leased transatlantic lines.

Ironically, the US Patent Office is a major customer of Pergamon-Infoline, which is growing at an annual rate of 100 per cent and exporting 60 per cent of its products to 52 countries.

Despite Pergamon's newspaper interests there are no plans to put these online. Mr Gibbins doubts whether home users will ever become major subscribers.

"There are probably no more than 100,000 users in Europe, the majority of whom are still information professionals such as technical librarians and corporate information officers. The home consumer thinks of information as free.

"People think that when they buy a newspaper they are paying for the paper — they are not used to separating the contents from the medium and this must happen for online services to succeed," he explained.

MM

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Amstrad finds the price is right

The personal micro business has gained its own equivalent of the Model T Ford during the past year in the form of the Amstrad PCW 8256, £399 worth of computer, screen and printer, which is remarkable for no other reason but its price.

Amstrad broke all the rules by using yesterday's technology to produce a computer for a rock bottom price. And, of course, it has proved an astonishing success, creating in its wake the same sort of software boom which followed the popularity of the Sinclair Spectrum in the home games market.

The PCW has also persuaded software companies that there might be a market for their wares among small users if they are prepared to drop their prices. Before the Amstrad arrived the customary price for a standard piece of business software was at least £200. The most popular products retailed well above this level, usually at about £500.

Where the little computer changed perceptions completely was in the price level of standard business programs for word processing, accounting, database and communications which had been around for years selling in relatively small numbers to those who could afford them. The machine uses CPM, one of the industry standard operating systems, now largely abandoned for MS-DOS.

The machine's own custom word-processing program, LocoScript, had a few deficiencies in its early versions, most of which are now cured. But once it became apparent that the machine was selling in large quantities, software houses started to adapt their long-abandoned CPM software.

Within a few months familiar IBM names such as Wordstar, dBaseII and SuperCalc2 started to become available. The software remains basically the same, the price has tumbled. But how much of a bargain

is the software? It depends on how you rate a bargain. Few large companies will take it into their hands to write programs simply for one machine alone and, since Amstrad has made it clear that its next machine is an ultra-cheap 16-bit IBM compatible, the days of the PCW as flavour of the month are limited.

The Amstrad has attracted one highly regarded new word-processing program, New Word which, for a mere £69.00, includes a 45,000 word spelling checker. But that may be an exception; whatever new software appears is likely to come from small independent houses whose products may be every bit as good, if not better than, the industry standards, but they will lack the backup.

The old software that has been adapted for the Amstrad may be perfectly adequate for your needs, which may be just as well since it is unlikely to be upgraded or improved from the basic version you buy. In short, you are buying a machine with a vast software base of programs which are, in the main, slightly antiquated and may soon be teetering on the obsolete.

But, Amstrad users may respond, the machine has proved there is no such word as obsolete in the computer world; only computers which work (or not) and sell and those which work (or not) and don't. If the Amstrad works and sells, as it undeniably does, where is the problem?

Perhaps there isn't one. If you want to look around at the bargain basement software for the machine it will include several solid standards that can handle the needs of a small business. In addition to those mentioned already, the Cracker2 spreadsheet (£49), which has a basic graphics function, the database Cardbox (£99), and the Sage accounts and payroll package (£149) are all programs which were well proven long before the Amstrad came along.

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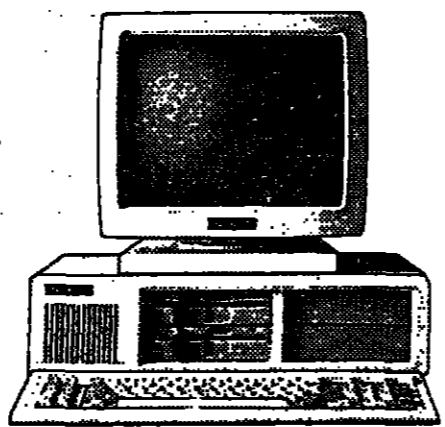
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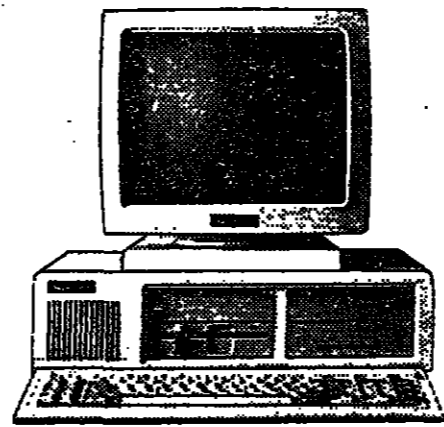
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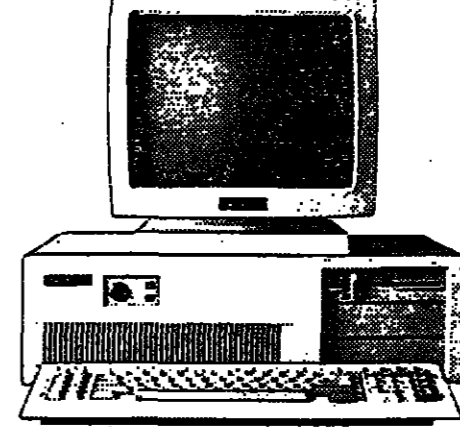
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 A Personnel Officer in this international company, whose prime responsibility is training, needs a young Secretary. Aged 22-25. Speeds 90/60.

RECEPTION c.£8,500
 A professional and well spoken Receptionist who enjoys coping with a busy switchboard (Monarch) is needed for this up-market firm of West End Consultants. A knowledge of typing would be an advantage. Aged 21-40.

COBOLD AND DAVIS RECRUITMENT LTD.
 35 Bruton Place W1. 01-493 7789

NEW MERCHANT BANK TO £15,000
 An outstanding opportunity for an outstanding banking PA with good shorthand/secretarial skills and a strong admin background including book-keeping. An immediate start and the chance of complete involvement in this new venture are offered. Call Jackie Scholder on 377 8600

PERSONNEL £12,000+
 Do you have at least 2 years personnel experience with the emphasis on recruiting, a natural enthusiasm, a high degree of self-motivation and the ability to market yourself? We are looking for a consultant, 24-40 to join our friendly professional team placing secretaries in permanent jobs. To start on a temporary basis initially, with a view to permanency. £12,000+ salary package. Call Lyn Cecil on 439 7001.

ADMIN/PERSONNEL £12-£13,000
 You have a track record in personnel administration, accurate typing for your own correspondence and word processing experience. You will handle personnel records, salary reviews and running the offices for a large professional City company. Age 35+.
 City 377 8600 West End 439 7001

JOB WITH LANGUAGES

FRENCH (& SPANISH) From £11,000
 A great chance to join an International Consultancy specialising in Third World projects as PA to the Managing Director. If you are 27+ with fluent French and English, s/hand in both languages and a good understanding of Spanish, seeking a challenging career-oriented post, please call us for further information.

GERMAN £9,000
 General Manager of international city bank seeks outgoing sec/PA with or without s/hand (who will receive training in W/processing if desired.) Offers much variety for person with fluent German plus excellent perks making package worth £13,000+.

ITALIAN £8,500+
 Major International High Technology group seeks an Italian speaking secretary to assist a senior manager who travels frequently. If you like holding the fort and taking decisions the PA role is waiting to be developed... Age 22+ (S/hand is not required).

Please ring (01) 839 3365
CLC LANGUAGE SERVICES & CO
 (Rec Cons)

Elizabeth Hunt ROOM AT THE INN £9,000
 A leading hotel group seeks a bright, enthusiastic secretary/PA to the sales and marketing director. Being the most senior secretary you will oversee the smooth running of the office and enjoy your own administrative projects. Own office and superb benefit package. 100/55 skills needed.

COVENT GARDEN £10,000 neg
 Have you got director level experience with a large public company? Are you a car driver? If so you're the chairman of this very successful group of companies. He will take you to meetings and you may travel abroad. 100/55 skills needed.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
 18 Grosvenor Street London W1 01-240 3531

SECRETARIES PLUS
 The Secretarial Consultants

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT
 A professional approach and a minimum of 2 to 3 years successful interviewing experience could bring you this exceptional opportunity to join an established personnel consultancy based in the Aldwych.

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY
 Required urgently for small export company situated in Central London.

GERMAN/GERMAN + FRENCH
 We currently have numerous vacancies for senior and junior PA/Secretaries. The main areas we are recruiting for are banking, litigation, media, import & export. Not every post provides a high language content but perfect English, German, German + French are essential for most vacancies. Experience in one of the above mentioned fields would be an asset.

PR + Aerobics! £8,000
 Put your career in shape — and keep slim and trim too — with this dynamic young West End company. Working for an exclusive list of top-name clients, you will help in the promotion of brands... names... images... ideas. Lots of scope for involvement. In a fast-moving yet very friendly environment, friendly their accounts are in beauty and health-care — hence the weekly aerobics classes! Secretarial experience and good typing essential. Age 20-25. Please telephone 01-493 5787.

Gordon Yates Ltd.
 35 Old Bond Street, London W1
 (Recruitment Consultants)

THINKING SECRETARY
 Is required by the Export Council of Norway, whose role is to promote trade between Norway and the UK.

The successful applicant will have initiative and confidence. WP skills essential. The work is varied so you must be adaptable and organised. Duties include typing, sometimes of lengthy market reports, answering trade enquiries, exhibition work.

Knowledge of Norwegian or another Scandinavian language an advantage. Salary negotiable.

Apply to:
 Export Council of Norway
 Norway Trade Centre
 20 Pall Mall London SW1Y 5NE.
 Telephone 01-839 6261.

Elizabeth Hunt IN THE MONEY £10,000 neg
 Join this City based investment management company as secretary to their deputy managing director. Help organise conferences, meet clients and host social events. A first class organiser with 20/50 skills needed. Benefits include a generous bonus.

ADMIN/SECRETARY to £10,000
 A top computer software house seeks a bright outgoing secretary interested in new technology to join their busy team. Arrange meetings, client demonstrations and use your good administrative ability, 90/60 and WP skills. First class, well equipped offices.

Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants
 23 College Hill London EC4 01-240 3531

PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
 95 Aldwych, London WC2B 4JF

CREME DE RECEPTION To £9,000
 Prestigious International Company dealing with private clients are recruiting a top flight London receptionist for their luxurious offices in SW1. Excellent personal presentation with understated glamour and friendly manner essential. Typing useful. Age 21 - 30.

Susan Beck RECRUITMENT 01-584 6242

ADMINISTRATOR WITH PERSONAL COMPUTING £11,000
 International Bank requires an administrator who is analytical, well organised and able to communicate at all levels. You will be using your personal computing expertise to produce monthly expected reports; personal and product volume reports from European countries. International correspondence coordination and budget status reports for New York are included in the responsibilities of the role. Training, programme, designing and implementation of monthly expenses on volume variances shall be executed to deadlines. This is for the career minded as career progression can lead into systems analyst role.

Contact Paula Howe
OFFICE SYSTEMS RECRUITMENT SERVICES
 115 Shaftesbury Avenue
 London WC2H 8AD
 01-439 4001.

MEDICAL SECRETARY £10,000 PA
 Three Consultants require experienced Medical Secretary to administer their prestigious Harley Street Practices. Tact, good humour, attractive personality & excellent secretarial skills are essential for this rewarding & challenging post. Age 25-35

CONTACT JANET WILLIAMSON
 01-403 0088

BOYCE BILINGUAL 01-236 5501 (EMP AGY.)
 7 Ludgate Sq, EC4 (Mon-Fri 9.30-4.30)

CREME DE RECEPTION To £9,000
 Prestigious International Company dealing with private clients are recruiting a top flight London receptionist for their luxurious offices in SW1. Excellent personal presentation with understated glamour and friendly manner essential. Typing useful. Age 21 - 30.

ARCHITECTS
 We are a well known practice which is expanding rapidly as a result of winning important contracts in London. We are looking for three secretaries, preferably with architectural experience, to handle multi-million pound projects and provide much needed admin support. Ability to work under pressure essential & knowledge of WP a positive advantage. Age 25+ with minimum three years experience and good skills. Salary £9,500 +.

Please write in confidence with CV to:
 Jane Kille,
 Terry Farrell Partnership,
 8 Paddington Street,
 London W1M 4DN

EXECUTIVE POSITION £11,500
 This large established company of accountants requires your intelligence, organised and efficient personality in producing an excellent audio and shorthand secretarial backup (using a Wang system) to produce effective business liaison between the client base and Senior Partner of the Private Government Department. Interviewing immediately. Excellent benefits.

Contact Zara Siddiqui
OFFICE SYSTEMS RECRUITMENT SERVICES
 115 Shaftesbury Avenue
 London WC2H 8AD
 01-439 4001.

ARE YOU THE CAT'S WHISKERS?
SW1 ADVERTISING PA £12,000
 Internationally acknowledged Agency Chairman would like an elegant, sparkling out of the ordinary PA to fulfil his needs (100/60).

SW1 PA/SEC £10,000 & £11,000+
 We need two cool calm people to enjoy a pressurised working environment in an expanding Executive Search Co. Applicants need 100/60 + WP exp, together with a sense of humour. Immediate start.

W1 SURVEYOR'S PA £10,500+
 Opportunity for a self motivated PA with good presentation for Senior Partner who enjoys a busy and demanding environment. Top skills essential. Varied work load and the opportunity to meet clients. Age 30 - 35.

WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR TEMPORARIES TO JOIN OUR TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL TEMPS. YOU MUST HAVE 100/60 + WP + CHAND. £100/60M PC/100/60M Display/Marketing & Wordstar. COME IN AND SEE US TODAY ON TELEPHONE GALLY OWNERS OR VERYAN CLERK ON 01-236 9427, 4 PONT STREET, LONDON SW1.

LEGAL AUDIO SECRETARY £11,500+ (including bonuses) KNIGHTSBRIDGE
 Busy Company Commercial Lawyer in International practice seeks experienced legal secretary with fast accurate skills who is not afraid of responsibility or hard work (with appropriate financial rewards) to organise his work, his clients and him.

CALL 01-235 0222.
 ref MGP or JRSMT.

PA TO MD £10,500 - £11,500
 Experienced PA/Sec/Secretary required by quality printing company, near Old St. Excellent benefits, pension and personal skills. Male or Female. Pension scheme. Please write or telephone:

MISS SHEILA L. NEEDHAM
 Managing Director,
 Hulton-Deutschman Ltd.,
 69-85 Tottenham St., London
 EC2A 4BA.
 01-238 3338

WEST END ESTATE AGENTS/SURVEYORS c £9,000
 Young partnership requires an interested and experienced Audio Secretary to work for Agency Partner.

Contact Janice Page
 01-580 0932
 (No agencies)

DESIGN CONSULTANCY SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST
 required by rapidly growing Design Company located between City and West End. Good telephone manner & secretarial skills essential. WP experience an advantage. The successful candidate will have initiative, be enthusiastic and career conscious. Up to £9,000. Phone Jakes to arrange an interview on 01-233 6172.

MANCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
 Grange Road, Manchester M14 6HS (Independent, G.S.A. Founded 1874)

Applications are invited from experienced secretaries for the post of **SENIOR SECRETARY**

To organise and coordinate work in the school offices and to act as Personal Secretary to the Head Mistress.

Applicants, graduate or non-graduate, must be well qualified in general education and recreational skills. Experience of secretarial work in an academic institution an advantage. Salary subject to qualifications and experience.

Please apply by letter to the Head Mistress, marking envelope 'SECRETARY' and enclosing curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees. For further details please ring 01-234 0467.

PA OWN OFFICE
 No need to be a financial wizard - just save the man from going bankrupt. WP plus shorthand an advantage.
 Salary 10K.
 01-377 6433

WANTED IN W1
 Typists and secretaries for expanding company.
 FREE WP TRAINING.
 £7,500 to £9,500.
 01-377 6433

INTERNATIONAL BANKING

SENIOR SEC. £13,000
 Your exceptional personal skills coupled with financial experience will be fully utilised within environment of a major international bank. Short hand and fluent in German essential.

EXECUTIVE SEC. £10,500
 Your extensive experience in a major international bank. Excellent benefits and opportunities for career progression. Please send CV to: 115 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8AD.

SECRETARY/PA £11,500
 High profile international bank requires a professional secretary with excellent presentation and knowledge of international banking. This is an exceptional opportunity to further your professional experience.

RECEPTIONIST £8,000
 City based recruitment consultancy seeks your typing and organisational skills to handle a variety of duties in busy reception area. This is an ideal opportunity for a college leaver.

ROSEBROW ASSOCIATES
 01-493 5280
 Bell Court House, 11 Blomfield Street, London EC2M 7AY

NEW INTERNATIONAL CLINIC W1
 Requires capable, adaptable, industrious and well groomed secretary with a sense of humour and a down to earth attitude towards a wide range of office duties including reception, shorthand, typing, answering telephone enquiries. Salary Negotiable.
 Please reply with CV to: BOX 780, Times Newspapers, P.O. Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1.

NON-COMMERCIAL POSTS
 Young secretaries interested in working full or part-time in universities, charities, etc either perm or temp are asked to telephone:

PROSPECTS TEMPS LIMITED
 (Staff Agency)
 629 1331

PUBLIC RELATIONS £210,000
 PA/Secretary with substantial PR experience required for new PR consultancy near St James Square. Great opportunity to be fully person. Graduate or 'A' level preferred but WP preferred.
 Send C.V. to: M. Winger, c/o Simon Offenberg & Co., 1 Great Cumberland Place, W1.

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HORIZONS

A guide to career choice

Tough rewards in outdoor life

Jane and Tim Bayliss have taken an unusual step for young farmers with the start-up of their own agriculture business in addition to their regular farming job.

The high cost of land and capital input makes independent farming a dream for most young farmers. Sally Watts considers how to tackle the agriculture business



This fact illustrates one of farming's hard realities: the high cost of land and the large capital needed for start-up make it very difficult for young people to be their own boss unless their parents own a farm or are tenant farmers.

Romantic ideas are blown away by harsh circumstance

Business Expansion Scheme, because they had not heard of it. Their venture is comprised of sheep for commercial fat lamb production and a goat's milk unit.

but I like the challenge and satisfaction of working with animals and with the weather. Tim has just taken a course on the farmer as manager, a useful subject for anyone hoping to progress in agriculture.

The couple think they have been lucky, primarily because Tim's boss is cooperative. "Lack of money is a difficulty in farming today and there's a shortage of opportunities for beginners, so you have to take on the responsibility yourself," says Jane.

Management skills are essential in farming today. "You've got to keep up to date," says Andrew, who has the NC and was formerly head tractor driver.

For further information contact: Agricultural Training Board, Bourne House, 32-34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4PB.

numerous back-up services such as pesticides, chemicals, fertilisers, perhaps working in sales or marketing. There are teaching opportunities, too, in universities and colleges.

The third year of entry is for young farm workers who attend a college course part-time or belong to the Youth Training Scheme.

Management skills are essential in farming today

you've got to keep up to date," says Andrew, who has the NC and was formerly head tractor driver. An evening course in management paved the way to his present job.

For further information contact: Agricultural Training Board, Bourne House, 32-34 Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4PB.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

THE CIM INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF MANUFACTURING TEACHING FELLOWS/LECTURERS SENIOR LECTURERS/READERS ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE Department of Electrical Engineering & Electronics COMPIGRAPHICS INTERNATIONAL CHAIR OF MICROELECTRONICS

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN School of Agriculture (University Department of Agriculture in association with the North of Scotland College of Agriculture)

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD BODLEIAN LIBRARY The Curators of the Library invite applications for the following posts: Department of Western Manuscripts

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM Department of Botany POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANT

THE UNIVERSITY OF LANCASTER CAREERS ADVISER Invited for three years from September 1986

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON CHAIR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE TENABLE AT THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

Posts

MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL NORTHWOOD, MIDDLESEX, HA6 2HT Telephone: Northwood 21850 require for September or January HEAD OF MATHEMATICS

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE Self motivated, confident graduate required for Construction Industry based Education and Information Unit.

CLIFTON COLLEGE, BRISTOL Young Economics Graduate required

LONDON Westminster Cathedral Choir School (IAPS, CSA, 60 Day Boys, 30 Choristers.)

EURO-SPRACHSCHULE Large Private Language School Organisation in Germany, requires for a client in the Frankfurt area: Experienced and Qualified Native Speaker Language Trainer (TEFL)

PRIOR'S FIELD SCHOOL HEAD Applications are invited for the post in succession to Mrs M.W. Dawson - a member of the Girls' Schools Association.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL, SHAFESBURY WILTSHIRE The Governing Body of St Mary's School, an independent RC boarding and day school for 320 girls invites applications for the post of Bursar.

Which School for your child? Our expert counselling covers every aspect of education, from primary to finishing school, from finance to educational psychology.

Fellowships

MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD TUTORIAL FELLOWSHIP IN APPLIED MATHEMATICS Applications are invited from men and women for a Tutorial Fellowship in Applied Mathematics

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW Gifford Research Fellowship in Natural Theology and Philosophy

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS RESEARCH IN HIGH ENERGY GAMMA RAY ASTRONOMY

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF FLORENCE Inviting you to study in Florence. We offer the best language courses, courses in the Florence University and high level language courses.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM The Use of Automatic Control Algorithms to Define Urban Traffic Routes

ASSOCIATION OF COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITIES Applications are invited for three-year post of EDITORIAL AND PRODUCTION ASSISTANT to the Journal of Commonwealth Education

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL Faculty of Law Applications are invited for a LECTURERSHIP IN LAW and a three-year POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON READERSHIP EUROPEAN COMMUNITY LAW AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS SECOND CHAIR OF COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE Preference will be given to candidates with income in computer science or related areas

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK Centre for Corporate Strategy and Change PRINCIPAL RESEARCH FELLOW AND SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW (TWO POSTS)

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON CHAIR OF JAPANESE STUDIES TENABLE AT THE SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES

UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM Lectureship in Pharmacy Drug Discovery/Dosage Form Design

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM Lectureship in Pharmacy Drug Discovery/Dosage Form Design

University of Cambridge JOHN HUMPHREY PLUMMER PROFESSORSHIP OF PHYSICS Applications invited for the above Chair which is now vacant.

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Big day in the power game

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Liverpool and Everton are the principal members of an exclusive club...

balance of power (either two or one and a half votes).

been at full strength this season. cannot be considered to be so now.

West Ham United must beat Manchester City at Upton Park tonight...

draw 0-0 at Nottingham Forest.

Carr, of explosive speed, opened by hitting a post and, after wasting an extravagant amount of possession...

Their chairman, John Smith (Liverpool) and Philip Carter (Everton) were influential figures in secret discussions...

Key fixtures

EVERTON: April 30: Oxford United (a); May 3: Southampton (h); May 5: West Ham United (h).

Reid, who will be one of the 22 Englishmen to be named in Bobby Robson's World Cup squad...

Nottingham Forest: S. Sutton; G. Fleming; S. Pearce; D. Walker; J. Metgod; D. Campbell; B. Rice.

Other football, page 28

Griffiths shatters Higgins's dream

For the second year running Terry Griffiths shattered Alex Higgins's dreams of a third world title...

Snooker

report about the inconsistent decisions made by the referee and I hope the powers-that-be will take the necessary action.

Tennis

Noah left holding the baby

From Richard Evans Monte Carlo

Yannick Noah, of France, found himself with a strong Swedish connection over the weekend.

Leeds capitalize on St Helens blunders

By Keith Macklin

Halifax, the champions, Wigan, Warrington and Leeds will contest the semi-finals of the last premiership trophy...

Rugby League

Halifax, the champions, Wigan, Warrington and Leeds will contest the semi-finals of the last premiership trophy...

Leeds capitalize on St Helens blunders

Halifax, the champions, Wigan, Warrington and Leeds will contest the semi-finals of the last premiership trophy...

Cycling

Santer (Reuter) - Jesus Blanco Villar, of Spain, won the 202-km fifth stage of the Tour of Spain in five hours 52 minutes...

Villar takes the lead

Santer (Reuter) - Jesus Blanco Villar, of Spain, won the 202-km fifth stage of the Tour of Spain in five hours 52 minutes...

Bad break for rebels

Pretoria (Reuter) - The New Zealand rugby rebels overcame the loss of their captain Andy Dalton, who suffered a broken jaw...



The ice men cometh adrift: but Murrayfield Racers finally found their feet at Wembley Arena when they beat Dundee Rockets 4-2 to win their first Heineken ice hockey championship at their third consecutive attempt (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Prost wins after fuel scare

From John Blunsden, San Marino

The San Marino Grand Prix lived up to its reputation for being the thickest of all the world championship races when car after car came to a halt in the closing minutes of yesterday's race...

Gerhard Berger, who was also in clutch trouble with his Benetton-BMW, was running in sixth place with three laps to go.

Imola details

RESULTS: 1. A Prost (Fr), Marlboro McLaren-TAG, 60 laps, 1hr 32min 28.40Sec.

best to conserve his gearbox. But, as Prost slowed during the final lap, Piquet, with plenty of fuel in hand, closed to within 7.6 seconds in the run-up to the flag.

Ballesteros beaten for third time after leading the field

From Mitchell Platts, Madrid

Howard Clark gave Severiano Ballesteros further food for thought by coming from behind to win the Sepia Madrid Open on the Puerta de Hierro course here yesterday.

Golf

he had lost after appearing to be in command. At the US Masters in Augusta Jack Nicklaus made up six shots on Ballesteros in the last ten holes.

Badminton

From Richard Eaton Jakarta

Triples and two King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee medals...

Troke is a heroine in the heat

From Richard Eaton Jakarta

England's men ended with a 5-0 win in the Thomas Cup over Singapore, but they too failed to qualify after defeats earlier in the event to Malaysia and China.

Sport in Brief

Dalton: tour setback

Britain defeated the United States 3-1 to win the Bathurst Real Tennis Cup, sponsored by George Wimpey...

Purton pride

Teressa Purton led a new-look British team to a fine second place in a modern pentathlon competition in Modena, Italy...

Carson winner

Willie Carson scored a surprise victory on Danzica in the Premio Regina Elena (Italian 1,000 Guineas) in Rome yesterday.

Sandy sure

A hat-trick by Julian Sandy in the final quarter of the men's lacrosse Final inspired Hampstead to a 9-8 victory over Hillcroft at Orpington. Hillcroft led 6-3 at half-time.

Hopes sink

John Hill, Britain's reigning world formula two powerboat champion, lost valuable grand prix points and his expensive boat, when his gearbox broke in half and his craft sank to the bottom of the Idroscalo in Milan...

England out

England are out of the European basketball championships despite yesterday's 74-65 victory over Denmark in Copenhagen. The crucial match came on Saturday when Austria beat them 64-60.

The man behind Piggott's return

The silver tongue of Vincent O'Brien, the master trainer of his era, was undoubtedly the decisive factor in tempting Lester Piggott, the 11-times champion jockey, out of retirement to take the mount of Tate Gallery in the General Accident 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket next Saturday.

Talking about the 50-year-old maestro's amazing decision, Robert Sangster, Tate Gallery's owner, said yesterday: "Lester was in a obvious quandary when Vincent started work on him on Friday, but he took an awful lot of persuading. However, he finally went over to Ballydoyle yesterday morning and after riding the horse in a gallop, agreed to ride. We've had to have him back on board and I'm going to try and get him to partner Double Schwartz in the Palace House Stakes the same afternoon."



Piggott: obvious choice

Michael Seely

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